TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

NEWS, LITERATURE, POLITICS, AGRICULTURE, SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS.

VOL. XLI. TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1874. NO. 50.

A Married Man not Married, yet Married.

"What shall I do?"

Ralph Willet looked the picture of despair as he walked into the office of his friend, Bod Ayers, and launched the aforesaid question at him.

"Why, what's the trouble now?" and good-natured Bob, a young lawyer who had just hung out his shingle; shut up the musty volume of legal lore over which he had been pouring, and gave his attention to Ralph's grievance.

"It's just this," said Ralph, opening his clenched hand, and disclosing a letter crushed into a thousand despairing wrinkles. "Here's my answer from the trustees of Monroe Academy; they were satisfied with my recommendations, and my references appear unexceptionable, but on one point they were strenuous—they will employ none but a married man."

"Pshaw!" blurted out Bob.

"Hear what they say: 'Only one question remains to be affirmatively answered by you before we close in with your terms: Are you a married man? You may think the question a strange one, but we have had so much trouble in the past with preceptors who, after the first few weeks, devoted themselves mainly to flirting, that we have passed a resolution as unalterable as the laws of the Medes and Persians, that we will employ none but married men. If you can suit us in that respect our contract may be considered closed. Let us hear from you at once in regard to that particular, and we hope you are prepared to meet our requirements, as we confess ourselves predisposed in your favor. Yours truly, William Peters, Sec. of the Board of Trustees.'"

"Let 'em go," said Bob, as Ralph finished reading, and glanced up at him. "There are other academies in the world, and not all blessed with such an old maid board of Trustees."

"But it is getting late in the season, and 'twill soon be impossible to engage a place for the coming year. The opening seems to be a fine one, but it's a hard case if I must be married, nolens volens, in order to teach."

"I don't suppose," mused Bob, "that it would be of any use for me to write them a voucher for your unexceptionable morals and anti-flirting principles?"

Ralph shook his head with a smile.—There was a moment's silence.

"I tell you what," burst forth Bob, "here's my advice to you as a friend and a lawyer, and no fee wanted either; make 'em think you are a married man; you can convey the impression without saying it in so many words, if you will ease your conscience."

"Bob Ayres! you're crazy!"

"No—just look here," and Bob ran over a hasty plan of arrangements.—"Upon my word, it's easily done, and the idea grows better and better."

Ralph was in a mood to clutch at anything, just then, for teaching was his chosen vocation, and he felt in honor bound to support his widowed mother in easy comfort. Before half an hour he had so fallen in with Bob's absurd proposition as to write, with his assistance, a response to the board of trustees. Here is a clause which most interests us:

"Fortunately, for me, your one important requirement is not at all an impossible one in my case. I shall not, however, bring Mrs. Willet to Monroe with me at present, as she does not like boarding, and it is hardly worth while to set up housekeeping here when I am only engaged for a year, and we have a good home here. It seems best, on the whole, that she should remain here among her friends for the present, so you will please engage board for me alone in some quiet family near the academy."

"There," said Bob, triumphantly, "even Mrs. Opie might be satisfied with that, for there is a Mrs. Ralph Wallet of whom all you say is true, but she is your mother, and not your wife."

"It's a dangerous game, I fear," said Ralph, closing and sealing the letter, "but I believe my intentions are good. If they find out I shall probably suffer."

"They will not be apt to find out the facts at this distance, but if they do, they won't hang you, my boy. I should put in a plea of self defense, if I had to defend the case."

"I shall saddle all the blame that occurs on to you, for I never should have thought of such a thing myself."

"My shoulders are broad," laughed Bob, "and lawyers are generally supposed to be incorrigible sinners, you know. But never fear; the crime is not a great one. Going into a strange place and palming one's self off as a single man when one is married, has a suspicious look, but passing for a married man when one is single is quite another thing."

A month later, Ralph Willett opened the fall term of Monroe Academy.

The close of the first day of school. Down the shaded sidewalk went a trio of school girls—Rose Peters, a handsome, dressy belle, Kate Martin, the wise and witty, and Effie Broomfield, a sweet, gentle girl and universal favorite, in spite of her humble home and plain attire.

"Isn't he perfectly splendid!" exclaimed Rose, the pronoun referring to the preceptor, our whilom acquaintance, Ralph Willet.

"What an intelligent, expressive eye he has," remarked Kate.

"Yes," assented Effie, "and such a finely shaped head. One needn't be a phrenologist to notice that."

"I do think," said Rose candidly, "that he is really the most attractive preceptor that we ever had in our academy."

"Take care, Rose," laughed Kate, "no flirting now, you know," for Rose was a first-class flirt, and her capabilities in that line had done more than all else to turn the heads of the last two preceptors and abate their usefulness in school. No wonder her father had introduced that remarkable resolution among the board of trustees.

Rose turned in at the gate of her father's handsome residence, but paused for a few more words. "Just as if," she said, "a married man couldn't possibly flirt! For my part I think they're just the best men of all to flirt with."

"Rose Peters!" said Effie reprovingly. "It is well for your credit that only your friends hear that speech."

"I mean it," persisted Rose. "They're so safe, you know, not being on the lookout for a wife, and one can go to any lengths without the least fear they will spoil it all by popping the question."

"I suppose," remarked Kate, "that very question was just what you aimed at in your flirtations."

"It's no such thing. I always avoid it as long as possible, for it spoils the fun. When I can stave it off no longer, and they will speak, I am always as lenient as possible with the poor fellows, and tell them I hope we shall be friends all the same, but we never are. Somehow there is always a coolness after that."

"Rose," said Effie, seriously, "I must either change my definition of a flirt, or give up that you are not one."

"What is your definition?"

"I have always called a young lady a flirt who led on young men to declare themselves for the sake of refusing them."

"Then I'm not one, according to your own definition."

"I must confess," said Kate, outspoken, as usual, "I don't see what better you are, save from selfish motives. The effect on them is about the same."

"I can't help it if young men will be so foolish as to fall in love with me," persisted Rose. "All I want is a good time, and no vexatious questions about marriage. That's why I like married men the best, you see."

"Allow me to prophesy, Miss Rose," said Kate, "that you've found one married man who won't flirt with you, and that's Mr. Willet." And with this parting shot, she and Effie walked on.

A week later, and the Monroe ladies' sewing circle convened, with its usual assortment of thimbles, talking and tatting.

"Wal, a new broom sweeps clean," remarked Miss Grum, a bilious looking female, with false teeth, and dyed hair, "so I s'pose this Mr. Willett'll be a perfect merrikle for a spell."

"He's as pretty as a pink, now, I say," put in Annabel Simpson, a rather soft-headed old maid.

"He is a pretty man," echoed old Mrs. Watkins, "and just the best boarder I ever had at my table. He's dreadful quiet and orderly, too; you'd hardly know there was a soul in the house."

"What room does he have, Mrs. Watkins?" asked Rosamond Green, more for the sake of further general information about the stranger than anything else.

"The front chamber, and he keeps it just as neat as wax. His wife must be a particular soul—men ain't neat without trainin'."

"I should like to see her," said Annabel, her big, innocent blue eyes looking as childishly curious as if she had been five years old instead of fifty.

"He don't say much about her," said Mrs. Watkins, who was just now the centre of information. "I said to him, the first day, that I was afeared he'd be kind of lonesome without his wife, and he said he meant to keep so busy as to have no time to be lonesome. But he's just the lonesomest man! I asked him if he had any children, and he colored clear up to his eyes and said, 'No ma'am.' (Here a giggling among the girls in the corner.) I asked him how long he'd been married, and he colored redder than ever, and said, 'Not long.' I began to fear he'd think I was too inquisitive, so I didn't say any more, but I'm sure I didn't mean to pry into his affairs, only just to show an interest in him."

"I guess he sets enough store by his wife," said little Mrs. Elliott, the postmistress. "He's sent her three letters already, and all in white envelopes with a monogram, and scented."

"Fiddlesticks on scented paper and monogrammars, or whatever they are!" said Miss Grum, spitefully. "They ain't no sure sign o'love."

"The main thing to be considered," remarked the president, Rev. Mrs. Warner, in her dignified manner, "is whether he will teach a good school. We have had such scandalous goings-on in our academy that I, for one, rejoice if we have, at least, a steady, sensible married man as preceptor."

"He won't take the lead in flirting, that'll be some consolation," remarked Mrs. Peters, the mother of Rose. "Somehow the girls all seemed possessed, lately, and if a new beau comes into town, be he lord or beggar, they're all after him."

"I'm sure I don't run after the beaux," said Annabel Simpson, in as deeply injured a tone as though she considered herself especially implicated, whereat the girls in the corner had another giggle.

"Nor I either, not by no manner of means," echoed Miss Grum, so fiercely that the corner became uproarious with merriment, and the president prudently changed the subject of the conversation.

About this time Willett sent the following letter to his friend:

Monroe, October 10.

Dear Bob:—It's the middle of the term, and as said the lamented Daniel Webster—"I still live."

Really and truly, I'm enjoying my school much except for that one thing which makes me feel guilty all the while. You and I alone know what that is. But I can see the wisdom of the trustees in their stipulation, for I never yet found a lot of school girls so harumscarum as they are here. This Miss Peters is an only child, a beauty and an heiress, and very much spoiled; her whole mind, heart and soul seem absorbed in conjugating the verb to flirt in all its moods and tenses. She even tried her arts upon me, but, laying aside my "married" pretense, I never fancied that style of young lady. Failing in that she took to pouting and creating rebellion in school. I took a straight course and sent her home to ponder on the error of her ways; she came the next day, asked my forgiveness very sweetly, and has been as good as a kitten, ever since, but I look for the claws daily. There are other high spirits in school, but she is the belle and acknowledged leader. Then there are some quiet, orderly ones, just my idea of girls as they should be, but I mustn't forget that I'm a married man.

Bob, you remember I hold you responsible for my white lies this year. I'm as careful as possible, but fear Mrs. Opie might sometimes be shocked.

Yours, hastily,
Ralph Willett.

Thus Ralph went on, winning golden opinions from everybody, gaining the love and respect of his scholars, and more than all, in the eyes of some, bringing back to Monroe Academy its former reputation. The school bade fair to increase in size, thus adding to the material prosperity of the place, and we are all ready to love anybody who helps to fill our pockets.

At the close of the term he went home to spend a fortnight's vacation.

"He's kind o' extravagant, I guess," remarked Jerusha Grum. "His journey back and to, two days in the cars each way'll cost him suthin'."

"Now, I don't blame him a grain for goin' home," said Mrs. Watkins. "'Course he wants to see his wife, and he'll be there to Thanksgivin', too. They've never been separated afore."

"How do you know?"

"I asked if they had. 'Twas the mornin' he went away, and he seemed as pleased about goin' as if he was a little boy goin' home to see his mother."

Could Mrs. Watkins have seen the silver-haired old lady who met Ralph and embraced him so tenderly, she might have thought the cases more than parallel.

Ralph and Bob Ayres had some quiet laughs over their secret. Bob prophesied great things as its result. "I tell you, Ralph," he'd say. "I believe it's sometimes right to do evil that good may come."

"Don't let's crow till we get out of woods," Ralph replied. "I've gained a good situation by the deception, but it remains to be seen how long I keep it."

The winter school proved to be quite different from the fall. Many new faces were among the pupils—some of the new ones missing—among the latter Effie Broomfield.

"She has taken a school, away in the south part of the town." Rose Peters volunteered this information when she came to the desk, after school to consult Mr. Willett as to what she had better read in Latin. "Isn't it funny to think of Effie teaching?"

"I have no doubt she will do well," was the answer. "Other things being equal, I have always noticed that the best behaved scholars make the best teachers."

"Oh! you don't think *I* would make a very good teacher then, do you? I was very naughty last term, you know, but I am going to be good enough this term, to make it all up." And Rose lisped off her little speech in such an innocent, childish manner, and looked so pretty all the while, that a more impressible man than Ralph Willett might have been captivated; he was not at all. "Of course, Effie would do well," she continued, "she is such a splendid girl. I want to go out and see her some Saturday, but father is always too busy to carry me."

Where was Ralph Willett's gallantry, that he did not offer his services as escort on that plain hint? But he didn't; only resolved that he would go by himself at the earliest opportunity. There was nothing out of character even for a married man to take an interest in his former pupil, and watch her success as a teacher.

He went accordingly, the very next Saturday. How charmingly dignified the little school-ma'am was, and how her sunny presence lit up the dingy old school-house. The school was a notoriously hard one, but she was beginning finely, as Ralph assured her, and added that he should come again, by and by, to note her progress.

Somehow or other he did not enjoy the Winter term as well as the Fall. His mother noticed the change in his letters, and spoke of it in hers.

"I don't think you're enjoying your school as well as you did in the Fall. Your letters are not so cheery."

"Why don't I enjoy myself so well?" Ralph asked himself. "All is harmonious in school." Then he laid the blame upon the bad roads which hindered his long walks, but somehow all his cogitations would come round at last to Effie Broomfield, and he would fall to wondering how she was getting on, if she had to burn green wood in that rusty three-legged stove, if she was contented boarding around, &c. And in school-hours, with some blundering pupil mixing moods and tenses in a hopeless tangle, trying to conjugate amo or thread the mazes of a geometrical problem, it was certainly curious how his thoughts always reverted to Effie, the musical way in which Latin verbs in all their forms came readily from her lips, and the clear-headed and neat-handed way in which she would elucidate a problem. Effie Broomfield! It was the most harmonious name in the world, but he often found himself repeating it mentally, over and over, as if it were a strain of music.

Near the close of the term he went again to visit the school. Well might he feel pride in her pupil as he noticed the results of his winter's work. Rude, gawky boys were transformed into young gentlemen, and romping, hoydenish girls into young ladies—all through her influence. Their progress in learning had been both rapid and thorough, and Ralph, in his delight, was not at all sparing in his encomiums. The little school ma'am took them as demurely as though they were a matter of course, seeming to feel in no wise flattered, and Ralph somehow felt himself her inferior.

"She's just the one for a teacher," he said to himself, as he pursued his solitary way homeward. "What a splendid wife she would make for some man who intended to make that his life-work."

He did not go home at the winter vacation, it being only for a week.

"It's a'most too bad," Mrs. Watkins said to him consolingly, "I dare say it looks a long time ahead before you see your wife."

"It does, really," replied Ralph, with a touch that set Mrs. Watkins into silent admiration of his modesty.

Mrs. Elliott informed the curious ones that Mr. Willett sent out a letter to his wife, every day through vacation, and was obliging enough to show to several the white monogram envelopes, whereon as handsome as engraving, stood, to their minds, an evidence of high marital affection.

The Spring term opened with a great increase of scholars, and Ralph needed an assistant. Effie Bromfield was among the pupils—but he was so impressed with her superiority as a teacher, that he offered her the post of assistant; she finally consented, with reluctance, to teach half the day, giving the other half to her studies. Kate Martin was engaged to do the same by the other half of the day, and the school went bravely on.

It was a lovely Spring. The snow went off in such good temper, no angry winds nor dismal rains, the brooks burst into music as soon as ever they broke their icy chains, and the birds sang sweetly as never before; at least, this was the way it all seemed to Ralph Willett. Every night, at the close of school, he was wont to hold a little conference at the desk with Broomfield; somehow there was always something to inquire about or suggest, and then they often walked down the street together as far as Mrs. Watkin's gate.

"I do think, Effie," said Rose Peters enviously, one day, "that you are getting to be a real flirt. Mr. Willett is altogether too attentive to you for a married man."

Effie's eyes flashed indignantly. "You have no occasion to make such a remark. Mr. Willett says nothing to me but what is proper and business-like, and anybody might hear."

"Oh! now, don't fly into a passion about it," laughed Rose, twirling the multitudinous rings on her fingers; "I only meant to joke you a little, although, truth to tell, if he wasn't a married man, I should think he was dead in love with you; his eyes follow you everywhere—and when you speak, he seems to devour every word you say."

"Hush!" said Effie, authoritatively, though not a soul was in hearing. "I won't listen to such nonsense."

"Oh! you innocent little darling!" laughed Rose, "I only wish I had your chance in Mr. Willett's eyes. I'd make that wife of his jealous."

"It's a pity that the devoted attention of all the unmarried men in town will not suffice you, but you must sigh after the married."

"Children are always crying for the moon. Perhaps, if Mr. Willett wasn't a married man, he'd be no better than the rest, but, as it is, there's not a young man in town worth mentioning the same day."

All pleasant things in this world must come to an end sooner or later, and this pleasant spring term was no exception to the rule. It closed in May, with a grand exibition, but the night proved, as exhibition nights are prone to dark, and rainy. Dame Nature, after being on good smiling behavior all the term, might be pardoned for making this closing night a time for her most copious tears.

Effie Broomfield wended her way to the exhibition under her father's escort, with the triple aid of his arm, lantern and umbrella.

"You make such a splendid beau, father; you don't seem at all afraid of wetting your own boots, and leaving me the best walking."

"Thanks for the compliment, but I dare say you'll be leaving me in the lurch, and allowing one of those same glossy-booted young men to walk home with you. It's the way of the ungrateful world you know."

"But not my way," said Effie, stoutly, "I'm engaged to you for to-night, so don't forget to wait for me; your lantern, umbrella, and general good care are altogether irresistible."

The hall was crowded to overflowing, in spite of the rain, and Effie, from her seat away in front, did not notice that her father was called out before the exhibition was half over. At its close, she donned her wraps, and while she spoke the good bye to one and another of her school-mates, waited and watched for the father.

He did not come, though the hall was fast emptying. Two or three offers of company home she declined, still thinking he must be there, when up came Fred Peters, a crony of her brother Jack.

"Oh! Miss Effie! I've been looking for you; your father was called out to serve on a jury, but he left his lantern and umbrella with Jack and told him to see to you. But Jack, he'd been and offered his company home to Minnie Warner before that, so he asked me to tell you to wait till he came back."

Effie groaned in spirit, for Minnie Warner's home was away at the other end of the long street. Was there ever anything so inconsiderate as a younger brother of sixteen? She went to the window and interviewed the weather, if perhaps she might make the trip alone and unprotected, but it was raining in torrents, and fearfully dark. There was no alternative but to wait for Jack to play the gallant and done with it. Yet the crowd were gone, and the lamps were being put out; only one remained, when Mr. Willett suddenly came up the stairs and re entered the room.

"You here still? Miss Broomfield," he exclaimed. "I supposed everybody was gone. I came back for a book I forgot," and he picked it up from a table near.

A few words sufficed to explain Effie's awkward dilemma. "Never mind," he said, "if you will accept my company home, I shall be happy to relieve you from the unhappy situation." She accepted the offer in the same spirit in which it was made, and soon found herself on the way home with a lantern as bright, an umbrella as large, and an arm as reliable as her father's.

As for Ralph Willett, it was the first time since his coming to Monroe that he had waited upon a lady, but the occupation was far from uncongenial. Indeed, the very lively tattoo which his heart was beating, as for the first time Effie Broomfield's hand rested on his coat sleeve, convicted him fully of what he might have known long before, if he would have acknowledged it to himself, that he was hopelessly in love with her. And all the while she, innocent little thing, was chattering as freely and unsuspiciously as if he was her grandfather. How guilty he felt when he remembered that she and all the rest of the Monroe-ites looked on him as a married man, and how afraid he was she would hear his heart beating so tumultuously.

Commonplace remarks are the safest under such circumstances, so Ralph spoke of the rain, the mud, the evening's exercises, and, finally, the prospect for the summer term. "I do not expect to need an assistant," he said, "but I hope you will attend the school," trying hard not to appear unduly anxious on the subject.

"I should like to," said Effie, "but I must be taking care of myself now, and cannot do just what I would prefer."

"You will try teaching again?"

"Yes, sir, but not here. I have not mentioned the matter to any one as yet, lest something should happen to defeat my plans, but now the time is so near I may tell you that I expect to go to Virginia to teach. A friend there has kindly procured me a situation, and I must start next week."

To Virginia! Next week! Ralph forgot all his caution, and his married-man pretenses, forgot everything in the dread of losing her, and, clasping her hand, burst eagerly forth:—

"Don't go! Effie! Dearest Effie! I love you as my own life. Do not leave me—" as that quiet Effie Broomfield, that indignant, scornful maiden who tore herself away from him, from under the shelter of his umbrella, and with flashing eyes exclaimed:—

"Leave me! this instant, Mr. Willett, and never let me see your face again! Oh! what have I ever done that you should so insult me?" and, her strength failing, she leaned against the fence and gave way to a torrent of tears.

"Miss Broomfield," said Ralph, in his dilemma, "will you think me more or less of a villain if I tell you I have never been married?"

"You have spoken of your wife," said Effie.

"Of Mrs. Willett, I acknowledge, but she is my mother, and not my wife. I have never been married, and shall never be unless you consent to be my wife," and he offered her his arm again. "I beg pardon for alarming you so—but I spoke on the impulse of the moment."

What was Effie to do? It still rained hard—she was almost home—so she took his arm again, and walked on, listening to his hurried explanation.

"It was wicked in me to deceive you all so, I grant, but I needed the situation, and knew they would not trust me as a single man. Do you blame me very much?"

They were at the door now. "I hardly know," she said, for her own heart was pleading his case.

"May I come and see you in the morning, then, you and your father?" and with her half whispered "Yes," he pressed her hand warmly, with a "Good-night," and departed: meeting the delinquent Jack just at the gate.

"Found a beau, didn't you, sis?" said Jack, as he came leisurely in. "I knew you would, you always do, so I didn't hurry."

Effie escaped to her room and lay half the rest of the night pondering on this state of things. Was she really herself or somebody she had read about in a book? It was about as puzzling a case as that of the old woman with shortened skirts in "Mother Goose."

Morning brought Mr. Willett to electrify her parents with his revelations. He made his case so clear there was no doubt of his honesty, but at his request they forebore to say anything abroad, until, two days later, in response to a telegram, down to Monroe came his mother, Bob Ayres, and the old gray-haired minister, who had known him from a baby upward. They brought proof enough of the truth of Ralph's assertions, Bob Ayres generously taking upon himself all the blame of Ralph's deception, and giving an account in his graphic way of how it came about, so Effie no longer hesitated to give her hand where, it was useless to deny, her heart had already preceded it.

Of course, Monroe was all ablaze. But everybody so idolized Mr. Willett that all seemed willing to extenuate the case. The general sentiment of the community was the same expressed by Mrs. Watkins to Ralph's mother, and, curiously enough, the same that Bob Ayres gave utterance to at the outset.

"Now, Mrs. Willett, if your son had come here, callin' himself a single man when he was married, I couldn't overlook it in him as long as I lived, but comin' here and callin' himself married, when he was single, just to keep the girls from running after him, that's altogether a different thing."

Ralph went to the trustees, acknowledged his fault, and tendered his resignation, which they utterly refused to accept.

"No, indeed," said the president of the board, "rather consider yourself bound to us for life," and he shook him warmly by the hand. "The crime of being unmarried is easily atoned for," and the worthy man put on such a knowing look that Ralph colored up like a veritable school-girl.

So Effie did not go to Virginia, but her traveling suit was all ready for her bridal trip, the next week, and when Ralph Willett came back to Monroe to commence his summer term, it was indeed, as a married man.

EMINENT WOMEN.

Entered according to the act of Congress, in the year 1872, by the author, in the office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

XXVII.—Dolly Madison.

(CONTINUED.)

Upon the inauguration of Mr. Jefferson in 1801, Mr. Madison received the appointment of Secretary of State, a position which he held during the eight years while the former was the Executive of the United States, and the time embraced in this period was spent by his family in Washington. Notwithstanding the ancient Virginia idea of aristocratic seclusion with which Mr. Madison must have been imbued, he was in remarkable sympathy with the democratic views of his Quaker wife, when the fact is taken into consideration that our country was just emerging from monarchial rule, and that consequently her social manners and customs were as yet modeled after the precedent derived therefrom. The Secretary of State was an indefatigable worker, and was wholly absorbed in public business, consequently the discharge of all duties connected with social intercourse, the receiving and reciprocating of civilities, the renewing of old friendships, and the formation of new ones, all so needful to one occupying his political position, devolved upon Mrs. Madison. President Jefferson was a widower; his two daughters were still young, and during a portion of his official term were absent abroad, or at school, and Mrs. Madison presided in their stead at State dinners and Presidential receptions. Both privately, in his letters to his daughters, and officially, Mr. Jefferson manifested his appreciation of these services. The rare tact which the French so aptly denominate *savoir faire*, amounted to talent with Mrs. Madison, and hence, exposed as she naturally was, in her exalted position, to the criticism, the envy, the jealousy and the misconstruction of the malevolent, she happily avoided giving offense, and conciliated the good will of all.

Every visitor at the mansion of the Secretary of State left her with the pleasing impression that he or she had not been an unwelcome guest, and when Mr. Madison was too much engrossed with official labors, or was suffering from illness and debility, as was periodically the case during his entire life, she received those who desired immediate interviews with him, which could not at the time be granted, listened patiently to business details, made notes of the most important items, and at the proper time presented them to her husband in a clear, concise and comprehensible shape, ready for immediate action thereon. The enemies of Mr. Madison, like those of John Adams, accuse her of exerting undue wifely influence over the mind of her husband. That this is as untrue in the one case as the other, is manifest to even the most superficial historian. Women who possess the mental gifts and the superior virtues of Dolly Madison, or Abagail Adams, will always make their influence felt in their domestic circles, however exalted or humble it may be. Absorbed as Mr. Madison was in official duties, it was doubtless impossible for him to give much attention to minor matters, which were nevertheless of great importance, and as Mrs. Madison possessed good health, and had a rare genius for the comprehension of all the practical affairs of life, it is more than likely that her ready tact in presenting matters, often caused her husband to be led by, and to act according to her advice, which impelled his enemies to hurl at him the silly accusation of being Lieutenant Governor of the domestic domain.

The home of James and Dolly Madison at the Capital, during the official term of the Premiership of the former, was characterized by comfort, and void of all ostentatious extravagance and display, and with its plain furniture and surroundings the dress of its fascinating hostess corresponded. But in works of charity and benevolence, and in an unbounded hospitality, there was scarce a limit to Mrs. Madison's expenditures, and even when fully sensible that her income was unequal to the gratification of her wishes in this respect, she often found it impossible to curtail her expenses in conformity to it, and in later life experienced the bitter fruits of her lavish prodigality. Indeed her goodness and benevolence partook of the unreflective nature of these characteristics, for which the Empress Josephine was so distinguished, and which in a great measure so eminently gained for her the love, affection and respect of the French masses.

As the second term of President Jefferson's administration drew towards its close, the smouldering embers of partisan bitterness and warfare which for the past four years had scarce given proofs of vitality, were fanned into fierce flames; rendering the social atmosphere of Washington a vindictive battle field, whose angry speeches and denunciations usurped the place of deadly weapons. A new President was to be chosen, and as usual there were several prominent candidates, each of whom possessed strong partisans. In consequence the spirit of political intrigue, which since the first inauguration of Mr. Jefferson had lain dormant, was again aroused to its full force, annihilating the pleasures of social intercourse, weakening personal confidence, sundering old friendships, and inaugurating an era of fear of becoming involved in this or that political or personal quarrel or intrigue, which destroyed the charms and pleasures hitherto derived from the cosmopolitan society which the capital afforded. Mr. Madison became the chief Presidential candidate, and was assailed by his opponents with an unparalleled violence of partisan animosity and personal vindictiveness. This, however, he bore with the equanimity of the sage, the scholar and the philosopher he was, and in accordance with his desire, his wife continued her usual receptions and soirees, as she had done for more than seven years previous. During this period of her career, the absolute genius of Dolly Madison triumphed over the adverse circumstances which, like a dark cloud, had overshadowed the social horizon of the National Capital, and it was wonderful what a happy effect it had in softening the bitter feuds of contesting opponents.

As persons directly or indirectly connected with governmental or political affairs, without regard to party distinction, were cordially invited to her house, hospitably entertained, and left her presence with the happy, self complacent impression that they had conferred a favor upon the charming hostess, instead of receiving one. Her remarkably quick recognition of everyone, her remembrance of names and individuals, and their personal and family relations, aided her wonderfully in carrying out the idea that each one was to her an especial object of regard, and by thus harmlessly and good humoredly petting the little foibles and weaknesses of humanity, she secured almost universal good will, and when she failed to do so excited no animosity. In this amiability her character, too, bore a great resemblance to that of the unhappy and beloved Josephine, for while she felt every attack upon her husband with the keen anguish of a devoted wife and loving friend, she met his assailants without any manifestations of malice or anger, but with a mildness which disarmed hostility of half its bitterness, and which very often converted political opponents into warm personal friends, and when it failed to do that always assuaged their animosity and left pleasing impressions of herself. Thus the leaders of all cliques and cabals met in refined, intellectual and pleasurable intercourse at the house of Mrs. Madison, and kindly sentiments triumphed for the time over partizan warfare. Mr. Madison, owing to his studious habits, his indefatigable industry, and his ill-health, which at all times rendered him a semi-invalid, could not on account of these conditions render himself as agreeable as his wife to promiscuous society, and was accused of a coldness, a reserve and an aristocratic bearing foreign to his nature, which, however, from a lack of native affability he had not the power of making manifest. Nevertheless, the social gifts of his wife admirably counterbalanced these qualities, and through their success, he was greatly indebted for his election to the first office in the gift of the nation.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Sarcasm.

The chief bar, I suppose, to the action of imagination, and stop to all greatness in this present age of ours, is its mean and shallow love of jest; so that, if there be in any good and lofty work a flaw, failing, or undipped vulnerable part, where sarcasm may stick or stay, it is caught at and pointed at and buzzed about, and fixed upon, and stung into, as a recent wound is by flies; and nothing is ever taken seriously, or as it was meant, but always, if it may be, turned the wrong way and misunderstood. And while this is so there is not, and cannot be, any hope of achievement of high things. Men dare not open their hearts to us if we are to broil them on a thorn fire.—*John Ruskin.*

An Iowa farmer who has been married only seven weeks and has had to buy a wig, offers to bet that his wife can whip a panther.

RELIGIOUS.

There are twenty-seven Catholic churches and chapels in Baltimore.

The Arch Street Presbyterian Church, of Philadelphia, has called Prof. Walter Q. Scott, of Lafayette College, as its pastor.

A colony is to be formed in Arizona to which only Roman Catholics will be acceptable. It will start from St. Louis in February.

Archbishop Manning has written a letter promising the Roman Catholic pilgrims from this country a hearty welcome in England.

The Rev. Francis A. Horton, of the Reformed Church, of Catskill, N. Y., has accepted a call from the Memorial Presbyterian Church, Cleveland, Ohio.

The Rev. R. H. Williamson, of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Wilkesbarre, Penn., has resigned his charge and joined Bishop Cummins' new departure.

The City Council of Macon, Ga., have voted to donate a tract of ground, costing $4,000, to Bishop Gross (R. C.), the Bishop to build a college for boys and an infirmary.

The Rev. John V. Lewis, rector of St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church, of Washington, D. C., is reported to have indorsed the Reformed Episcopal Church and Bishop Cummins.

The catalogue of the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church shows that there are 73 students attached to the institution. A catalogue of the alumni from 1872 till 1873—788 in all, of whom there are deceased 144—is given.

There are connected with the Baptist churches in Pennsylvania 462 Sunday schools, 5,025 teachers, 42,365 scholars, of whom 1,141 have been baptized during the year. There are 101,400 volumes in the libraries, and $7,666 have been contributed for various benevolent purposes.

The London Church Review (P. E.) defends devotion to the Sacred Heart as an offshoot of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, one of whose rules requires the recital of the litany of the Sacred Heart every Thursday night between 11 and 12 o'clock. The Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament has been in existence in this country some time.

A collection of wonderful and precious relics, gathered from Venice and Rome and other parts of Italy are now exposed to the veneration of Catholics in the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer, Third street, near Avenue B. They consist of a portion of the true cross, a thorn from the crown of thorns, and many relics of the Passion, of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of the apostles and saints.

It seems the St. Matthew's P. E. Church, of Wheeling, W. Va., is divided on the question of the Cummins movement, with a majority in its favor. It will be remembered the rector has withdrawn from the Protestant Episcopal Church, though he has not yet joined the Reformed Episcopal Church. Judging from the indications given in letters to the papers, a suit may follow for the possession of the property.

The Rev. Kingston Goddard has written a letter denying that he has joined the Reformed Episcopal Church. He, however, says: "I fully approve of Bishop Cummins' act in this matter. I believe he has done right." Also, "I should esteem it an honor to be associated with Leacock, Smith, Cheney, Gallagher and Feltwell in this movement. Occupying the position I do, I am satisfied that I can promote the cause better by staying where I am than by going out."

The Methodist Episcopal Church South in Texas, numbers five conferences, some 250 traveling preachers, and 47,000 lay members. The Methodist Episcopal Church, since 1866, has grown to three conferences, which now include 127 traveling preachers, 330 local preachers and over 15,000 lay members. The colored Methodist organization, not included in the above report, number about 13,000 more. These make up a total of 75,000 Methodists, about one-twelfth of the population of the State.

At a recent meeting of the Presbytery of Memphis, the following resolution was unanimously adopted: *Resolved*, That while not prescribing any particular standard of attainment, we would recommend that the Presbytery license such colored men with whose piety, motives for seeking the ministry, and aptitude to teach they may be satisfied, to preach the Gospel among their own race; and, as soon as the way is clear, that they ordain and set off such licentiates to constitute a Presbytery by themselves.

Among the principal bequests contained in the will of the late Miss Margaret Belden, admitted to probate recently at Norwalk, Ct., are the following: Parish of St. Paul's Church, of Norwalk, $10,000; the Missionary Society of the Diocese of Connecticut, $5,000; Nashotah Mission of Wisconsin, $10,000; Trustees of the aged and infirm clergy and widows' fund, one-third of the rest and residue of the estate, and the Berkeley Divinity School at Middletown, the remaining two-thirds. The amount of the latter bequest will be very large.

Biagio, master of the ceremonies to Paul III, offended Michael Angelo by imploring him to drape his figures. As a punishment for his want of taste, the artist painted him with the ears of an ass in the depths of hell. The master of the ceremonies ran to complain to Paul III. of the insult put on his respectable person. "I beseech your Holiness to take me out of that," he cried. "But where has he placed thee?" demanded the Pontiff. "In hell, your Holiness!" replied Biagio, sobbing. "If thou hadst been in purgatory," said the Pope, "I would have removed thee, but I have no authority whatever in hell."

The Moravian Brotherhood have, in Dutch Guiana, a mission begun in 1735, which, carried on with great sacrifice and suffering on account of the climate, has been rife with results. In the town of Paramaribo, the capital of the colony, the missionaries have a congregation of 6,000, and there are a number of other congregations near the coast. In 1872 the mission had 13 stations, 65 missionaries, [illegible] assistants, 5,367 communicants, and a total of 24,707 adherents. The mission [illegible] the expenses of the mission by their own labor.

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

D. R. LOCKE. J. P. JONES.

LOCKE & JONES, Proprietors.

TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, FEB. 19, 1874.

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We have made arrangements with the publishers enabling us to send the BLADE and either of the following publications for the price annexed:

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WEEKLIES.

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Please remember that we CANNOT ALLOW COMMISSIONS on subscriptions for the above named papers and magazines, except for the BLADE, Locke's Monthly and American Farm Journal as stated.

Our Agents everywhere are authorized to receive subscriptions at the above rates. In making this proposition we only stipulate that we must receive at the *same time* one subscriber for the BLADE for each copy of any other publication ordered from the list. They need not both be sent to the same person, nor even to the same Post Office, and in renewing their subscriptions, old as well as new ones, subscribers may avail themselves of the offer. The Magazines and papers are all sent direct from the offices of publication to subscribers, so that there will be no delay in their receipt. No subscriptions received at the above rates for less than one year.

SOUTH SEA COMMERCE via THE PACIFIC.

Great Britain has recently established a new route by which her traffic with the South Sea colonies will hereafter pass from the United Kingdom through the United States to the Pacific coast, and from thence to Australia. This route is twelve days shorter than the old one, via the Suez Canal and the Red Sea, and is calculated to revolutionize the commerce of the Pacific coast, and to increase the growth and commercial prosperity of the States through which the present Pacific Railroad passes. The late postal treaty between our Government and New South Wales gives us direct communication with the commercial cities of the south seas by the new Australian and American mail steamship line. To give an idea of these countries we quote from the statistics: New South Wales alone, in 1872, exported 50,233,453 pounds of wool, half a million gallons of wine, more than sixteen hundred thousand pounds of sugar, four million bushels of wheat, fourteen thousand dollars' worth of diamonds, ten thousand tons of tin, a much larger quantity of copper, and several hundred thousand ounces of gold, besides coal and other produce. The tonnage of vessels entered inward amounted to 774 490, and out to 813,550. And this is only a part of the trade which has heretofore gone to the British Empire, about one-third to England direct, and the rest to other British ports. The other colonies of Australia are equally productive.

Aside from Australia, this route brings us in connection with all the fertile and highly productive islands of the Indian Ocean; Southeastern Asia and the island groups of the South Sea from the south of Australia to Yokohama, the vast commerce of which will pass to San Francisco and from thence to the Atlantic seaboard cities. Last week the first overland mail from Australia arrived at the port of New York. According to the reports of the press from that metropolis, in five minutes afterwards it was in wagons and off by rail to San Francisco, from whence it passes directly to New South Wales. These commercial advantages which we must derive from this new arrangement, are incalculably great, and will tend to largely augment the growth and wealth of San Francisco, which promises to become a vast commercial emporium to not only the United States, but the entire South Eastern Continent and the islands of the South Atlantic, Indian and South Pacific Oceans.

☞ MCCOTTER was hung at Cambridge, Ind., for murder. Just as the drop fell, he exclaimed: "I killed Ben INSLEY; I forgive everbody." Kind MCCOTTER! How glad we are he said "everybody." He didn't except from his forgivness Mrs. INSLEY, or even the orphan INSLEYS. It includes the Judge, the jury—in short, "everbody." It seems a pity that so forgiving a man should be hung.

☞ "Stealing the livery of heaven to serve the devil in," has been brought to a practical point in Texas. The horse-thieves get up prayer meetings in that State. They have one venerable villain who was formerly a Methodist preacher. He engages the devout in prayer, when his confederates ride off on their horses. They caught this evangelist and hung him last week.

☞ Miss WOOD, daughter of FERNANDO, who has just made her *debut* in society, is said to be very beautiful, and dresses richly. FERNANDO's stealings have been large enough to give her all she wants.

PRE-EMPTION FRAUDS IN COLORADO.

From reports which from time to time have reached the National Government, strong suspicions were engendered, regarding the fraudulent entry of many sections of land in Colorado Territory, in consequence of which, it was deemed expedient to send a special commissioner of the United States Land office thither, to investigate them, and ascertain whether they had any foundation in fact. The report of these investigations, which last week was laid before the Commissioner General of the Land Office at Washington, not only confirms these suspicions, but establishes beyond a doubt, that not sections of land merely, but almost the *entire Territory has been fraudulently pre-empted*, revealing a state of stupendous rascality, and a dishonesty seldom equaled in boldness in criminal records, which but for the timely discovery, resulting from this investigation, might have ended in the government giving possession of the best and most productive lands of an extensive Territory, to some half dozen or more thieves, swindlers and confidence men.

Mr. M. B. ROBINSON, the special Government agent sent to investigate these frauds, says that after a careful examination of West Las Animas, and Las Animas, and the affidavits of permanent citizens there, and in the vicinity, whose credibility is unquestionable, and from his own personal observation of the country, he finds that one SAMUEL E. SHOEMAKER and several others, regarding whose pre-emption claims the investigation was ordered, were persons who had never *been seen or heard of* in the Territory before they filed their patents. That no mark of settlement, no improvements, and no residence were visible, and that all alleged settlement, improvement or residence, was utterly "false in each and every particular." Mr. ROBINSON refers in detail to the false affidavits, and fraudulent land patents of SHOEMAKER, MANNING, LEITCHE, BROWNE, PICH, COWAN, PECKE and DENNIE, and in consequence of their being so extensive, and the discovery of other frauds of a similar nature, felt it to be his duty to advise the suspension of the delivery of *all* patents in the Puebly District, and telegraphed to Washington accordingly upon the 1st of January last.

Subsequent investigations reveal that the largest proportion of all the land entered in Colorado Territory was fraudulently pre-empted, and that this land stealing has been in progress for years. Much censure of course, for this rascality, should fall upon the Land Receiver, who according to the report "is frequently absent, and even when in his office takes little or no interest in his work," and certifies as a mere matter of form whenever the demand is made, and he obtains his fees. Mr. ROBINSON further gives it as his opinion, that all these lands were pre-empted in the interest of certain parties in Denver, and while these transactions involve fraud and perjury, the crime of forgery was not perpetrated. "Pre-emptors and witnesses," he says, "can be obtained too cheap in Colorado to warrant the crime of forgery." All the lands in the vicinity of Denver for many miles have been entered, and while almost all of them are yet in a state of nature, by far the greater part were acquired by pre-emption, upon which their claimants and their witnesses had probably slept one night, 'and went to the land office next morning and proved up." Farther evidence also demonstrates that this pre-emption thieving and rascality is being conducted in the interests of capitalists and rings, which now, that its existence has been so forcibly brought to light, it is hoped will be eradicated and destroyed, so that actual settlers may be entitled to the benefits from which they have hitherto been robbed by dishonest rascally speculators.

BISMARCK AND THE POPE.

We are not able to agree with a portion of the American press in condemning the course of BISMARCK in regard to the contumacious Archbishop of the Roman Church, and his inferior clergy. It is said that the great minister of the German Empire should adopt the policy of the United States, and let ecclesiastics have precisely the same liberty there which they enjoy under our free Constitution. This sounds well, we admit. As a matter of sentiment, we are not at all disposed to offer objection or criticism. But circumstances alter cases, and the circumstances of Germany are not those of the United States. If they were, BISMARCK would be just now the happiest man in all Europe. If the Pope would keep his finger out of the affairs of the German Empire as completely as circumstances compel him to keep it out of American affairs, BISMARCK would have no need to imprison contumacious clergy for disobedience to law. Rome is far distant from the United States, and the adherents of the Pope here are a small body when compared with the greater mass of our people who confess no allegiance to the Pontiff who presides at the Vatican. We have not had, under our Constitution, any entanglements with ecclesiastical institutions of any sort, nor are we likely to have. As the mind and temper of our people now are on that subject, we will have peace, if we have to fight for it. But Germany is not so happily situated. Within her empire Rome has a vast multitude of adherents who yield a servile obedience to the Pope. The State has its duties to perform to a large body of religious people, who wish to be Catholics without being Papists. The Administration of the Empire can not ignore, as ours can, the clamor of the ecclesiastics. As it stands related to them it must take notice of them, especially as they affect the minds and hearts of their votaries towards the government. The Roman Priesthood in Germany is too strong to be let run without watching or control. They believe the Pope to have rights which the Emperor of Germany ought to respect. On that point His Imperial Highness differs with His Holiness. The latter believes himself to be infallible, but the Emperor believes the Pope to be as capable of making mistakes as anybody else. This state of things is not pleasant in all its bearings and outlooks. There is a prospect of trouble.

BISMARCK is far seeing, prudent and courageous. He cannot afford to let Rome defy him. He dare not let his eye relax its vigilant watch upon the ultramontanes for a moment. The laws require certain vows of loyalty from all priests, of whatever communion. This obedience certain of the Romish clergy refuse to render. Even so liberal and unsuspicious a government as our own might be placed in circumstances to require it to set outside of its territory men who would not promise to be loyal to it. For a party suspected of disloyal designs to say that his religion compelled him to decline such a vow, would only make him appear the more dangerous.

Ultramontanism in Europe respects no rule but that of the Pope. If non-Catholic rulers would retain their thrones they must meet its aggressions and subtle invasions by measures combining in their conception the utmost wisdom with the greatest vigor of execution. The contest for the safety of the German Empire cannot begin too soon nor be conducted with too much vigor. The American press should not, therefore, withhold its sympathy from a ruler who bravely withstands a fanatical despotism which would rule all Europe with a rod of iron, if it could. With the Pope's dominion as a spiritual ruler, we would not interfere by even a word, but when he assumes, through his clergy, to defy temporal princes, he cannot justly complain if they defend themselves with all the means in their power.

SENATORS LIBELLING THE LEGAL TENDERS.

A Senator of the United States may possibly talk learned nonsense and not be conscious of it. For instance, Senator FRELINGHUYSEN called the legal tender notes a "forced loan." This being called by some one "a mere figure of speech," Senator SCHURZ comes to the aid of the New Jersey Senator and justifies the phrase as a literal truth, by the following reasoning:

"The Government issued legal tender notes to buy commodities in a great variety of forms, including labor and service. It gave for these commodities not money, but its promises to pay money; and of those who for such promises to pay sold anything of value to the Government, the latter thus borrowed the value of the things so sold to it. This virtually constituted a loan. The seller was obliged to take the legal tender notes for what he had to sell, because he could not get anything else in payment. He had to sell for what he could get, or keep his goods. And thus the issue of legal tender notes constituted a forced loan; and the Government promise to pay, bearing no interest, it constitutes a forced loan without interest."

When a substantial farmer, with an excellent fame for truth and honor, and well blessed besides with worldly goods, comes to a merchant and says: "I want to buy a suit of clothes giving my note payable when my crop comes in, otherwise I cannot make the purchase," is the merchant accepting the proposition, the victim of a "forced loan?" Has he not a right to refuse the trade it it be not satisfactory? This is precisely the case when the government issued its "promises to pay." Nobody was compelled to give his goods for them if he did not wish to. But it so happened that everybody was glad to get them. They bore no interest, it is true. Neither does gold nor silver carried in the pocket or buried in a vault. The gold, by much handling, depreciates faster than the greenbacks. And if the legal tender itself did not promise redemption in specie, the Government provided that it might be funded at the will of the holder, in a bond which did bear interest, and was ultimately redeemable in gold and silver. To have issued an interest bearing note would have left us without a currency, as such a note would have been hoarded away before passing into a dozen hands. This was the fate of some millions of interest bearing notes the Government did issue. To call this a forced loan or an "irredeemable currency" is an abuse of words.

The idea of a metallic currency being sufficient for a new, growing country like this is an absurdity, and the notion of a currency issued professedly on the basis of prompt redemption in specie being always "redeemable" is also a fallacy, as no such currency has ever been thus redeemable for a great number of years in succession. Even the Bank of England, supposed to be an inexhaustible mine of bullion, has at various times been compelled to suspend for a time the fulfilment of its paper promises. Our legal tender currency served, and still serves, all the ends it was designed for. No man with that currency in his pocket could say it would not buy him anything that specie could buy.

Why this attempt to decry a currency which has served the credit and business of the nation so well in a time of national calamity? Why call that a "forced loan" which even the rebels received with joy, despite JEFF. DAVIS' interdiction of its circulation in his lines? No matter how, or by whom, it was always redeemable in any sort of property the holder had enough of it to pay for. The country has far more mischief to fear from this old fogy clamor for specie payments than from any evils arising out of such a currency. We may well suspect the designs of such politicians as a few years ago demanded an issue of greenbacks to pay off our five-twenty bonds with, but now clamor with all their might for specie payments. They mean to embarrass the Government if they can, by making discontent among the masses. A Government that keeps its foot on traitors and repudiationists can always issue a currency required by its business necessities. A wealthy and prosperous nation that always keeps its faith need never have an irredeemable currency.

☞ If St. Louis really desires to be the great Western city—if it hungers and thirsts to put its foot on the neck of Chicago, and settle forever the question of supremacy—let it at once take hold of the extension of the Wabash Canal from Terre Haute.

MR. GOLDWIN SMITH.

Americans can not willingly part friendship with Mr. GOLDWIN SMITH, the English scholar, who recently spent a few years at Cornell College, and who, during our struggle with the Rebellion, spoke so many hearty and courageous words for the National Cause, in opposition to the Tories and aristocrats who aided our enemies. But some of his recent utterances indicate on his part a desire to provoke an alienation of our feelings from him. In a series of addresses delivered before Trades Union Congress Associations, in the English Provincial towns, he makes, to say the least, many uncomplimentary assertions in regard to the social and political institutions of the United States, the chief object of which appears to be, to persuade those expecting to emigrate to America to *settle in Canada* instead of the United States. And while tacitly admitting that the social and geographical advantages are not equal to those of the latter, and that the facilities for acquiring homesteads and becoming independent, prosperous farmers are not as favorable, he nevertheless advises all British emigrants to settle in Canada, which, according to his view, "possesses all the advantages of the United States, without the drawbacks of the latter, where the emigrant will be welcomed as an Englishman, where he will find England, *minus* its aristocracy, to bar the way of progress to the people, where there is no 'Squire to whom they are bound to cringe all their days, no parson to help the 'Squire, and no landlord to keep his foot on their necks," concluding his peroration by the assertion that "in that happy country, (Canada) all men are upon an equality, and intrinsic worth is the sole test of position."

This chief objection to the United States as a home for British emigrants, he says, is "that an Englishman who still loses the old country, would, if he lived there, be among a people who are always breathing hatred of it, and whose feeling against England is so strong as to bring discomfort, if not injury, upon him." It is more than probable that GOLDWIN SMITH made the discovery that learned, intelligent and scientific Americans did not hold him in such exalted estimation as he holds himself, and that among learned classes of the New World, as of the Old, he very soon found his proper level, and hence undervaluation of the manners, customs, insitutions and people of the United States. Another potent and very plausible reason advanced for his sudden advocacy of Canadian immigration, is, that he is the agent of Canadian land companies, and is receiving a handsome salary for encouraging his countrymen to seek new homes there instead of in the United States. Be that as it may, the leading English papers protest against the grave and unfounded charge of the learned Professor in accusing the American nation of cherishing hatred or even an unfriendly spirit towards British emigrants, and record with pleasure the unanimously kind and courteous spirit with which all classes from Great Britain, from the literateur and the Savan, to the common day laborer, are welcomed in the land of the free. It is astonishing how one who has received the courtesy and hospitality which greeted GOLDWIN SMITH, can make such a prejudicial statements. His numerous well-wishers will deeply deplore the change in his feelings and temper which makes such a course on his part possible.

☞ Those who have taken time to read the resolutions of the Connecticut Democracy, are not surprised by their originality. The dreary repetition of denunciations of the party in power, made by minority parties from time immemorial, has been an unfailing resort for desperate politicians. Any body can rail and find fault. It requires no genius to do that. Hence, we are not surprised to be told by the party which furnished a TOUCEY for BUCHANAN's Cabinet that the present Administration has disordered the finances and brought ruin on the country. Not a few men are now living who can remember what the financial state of the country was when BUCHANAN and TOUCEY left office, with not a dollar in the nation's treasury, and armed traitors flouting the traitor's flag in the face of the incoming administration. Then the country needed no convention to pass resolutions telling them of peril and impending ruin.

But when the Connecticut solons come to tell us what their remedies are, they find themselves in a hard road to travel. They say that a return to specie payments is the way to prosperity. That doctrine sounds very sweetly to the ears of Connecticut money lenders, whose consciences have long since been voiceless when heavy shaves on Western borrowers have been under consideration. But the West has another view of the matter. Our struggling industries, our pioneer enterprises, want currency equal to the demands of our trade without paying usury to those who put up corners on money in order to profit by our necessities. We want a currency based not on bags of metal hoarded in vaults, but on the wealth contained in fertile fields, in full barns, in thriving manufactures, and in remunerative commerce. We want a currency based on the good faith of an honest and thrifty people, rather than on a commodity which sharpers handle like the little joker, which "now you see, and now you don't!"

The Connecticut Democracy proposes to give no protection "to one class at the expense of another." That means, of course, free trade. But in Pennsylvania and in Ohio we cannot afford to pay Connecticut money lenders the rates of interest they exact without some protection for our industry. Try your free trade panacea but a single year, and looking back on the prosperity of Gen. GRANT's administration, men will not call it a period of "ruin," but the "golden age" of prosperity, to the policies and methods of which they will be glad to return.

☞ The Hudson's Bay Company, organized 206 years ago, is no more, having surrendered its charter to the British government. Their territory is to be annexed to Canada.

PRACTICAL BENEVOLENCE.

One of the happy results of modern progress is a certain practical benevolence, which prompts persons of large wealth to inaugurate institutions beneficial to their fellow-men, while the donors enjoy sound mental and physical health, instead of waiting until death has stilled the thoughts of the active brain and the working hand, and leaving the labor for the accomplishment of executors, less interested and less fitted for the work than themselves. Such an one is Mr. JAMES LICK, of San Francisco, a very opulent man, who has wisely decided to execute his own will, so far as it may be possible, during his lifetime.

He has projected numerous munificent gifts in the interest of science, education and humanity, the principal of which are, one for the establishment of an astronomical observatory in San Francisco, which is to contain a telescope of larger power than any as yet constructed. According to the plans of the donor, several hundred thousand dollars are required for this institution, and have been set aside for its speedy construction. To the Academy of Science, in the same city, Mr. LICK gave an eligible lot of sufficient size to erect suitable buildings thereon, and also to equip a museum. To the Society of Pioneers he gave a lot and sufficient means for the erection of a handsome building, adaptable to their wants. He also gave a large sum of money as an endowment fund, for the establishment of an institution of technology in San Francisco, has made large provisions for a system of free public baths, contributes munificently to several orphan asylums, an asylum for aged and indigent women, and several other benevolent institutions. Aside from these educational and charitable works, he is a lover and patron of art and proposes to erect some historical art monument at Sacramento and San Francisco. Mr. LICK's wealth is estimated at several millions, and his schemes of practical benevolence are spoken of by those acquainted with them, as the most comprehensive and beneficial to the interests of humanity of any which have previously taken shape in America. Unconsciously Mr. LICK is erecting for himself a monument more enduring than a marble column or a granite sarcophagus, since future generations like the present will revere and remember his name, and his good work in the enlightenment and education of humanity will justly immortalize him.

THE USES OF AMMONIA.

A writer, a cotemporary, who evidently speaks from experience, enthusiastically rehearses the beneficial uses of ammonia, many of which are new to us, and possibly also to our readers. In this season of influenzas, and the prostrating headaches which result therefrom, the inhaling of ammonia is a specific remedy, and for heartburn and dyspepsia it is specially recommended. Aromatic spirits of ammonia are prepared for the latter complaints, and ten drops in a wine glass of water is a dose for an adult. For household and cleansing purposes its beneficial uses are innumerable, and its cheapness brings it within common reach. A teaspoonful of ammonia in a quart of warm soapsuds, will instantly remove fly-speck, smoke and dirt from windows and paint, and greatly lessen the housekeeper's labors, since it obviates scrubbing. For washing silver and mirrors the above is also an excellent preparation, dressing and brightening both in a manner most gratifying to lovers of neatness. For removing grease spots from any fabric, a few drops of ammonia should be poured upon the stain, which requires to be quickly covered with blotting paper and to be pressed with a warm flat-iron. To rare laces and old muslins it imparts a newness and freshness if a few teaspoonfuls be added to the suds in which they are washed, and for cleansing hair and nail brushes, and removing dandruff, it is unrivalled as a cleansing and purifying agent.

☞ It may be well for the people to receive with many grains of allowance what the chronic grumblers of Washington have to say about the expenditure of money for the improvement of that city. There are often very unjust charges made against the District officials. On this point the Boston *Journal* says:

"It may be well to mention the domestic dissensions here, about which so much is telegraphed over the country, especially by those 'independent' journalists, who never let an opportunity pass for abusing anything indorsed by the administration of General Grant. The neglected condition of the streets here, the absence of sewerage, and the *Southern* appearance of the metropolis generally, up to the change of government a few years since, are known to every citizen of the Republic. Under the new *regime* the city has been made *Northern* in appearance. Avenues and streets have been graded and paved; a system of sewerage has been adopted and commenced; the public reservations have been beautified, and the national metropolis begins to be worthy to bear the name of Washington.

"That there may have been abuses in the execution of this great reconstruction of a city, spread out over a large area, is possible and probable. The persons who contract for the execution of public work are not generally over-scrupulous, and those who were attracted here from all parts of the Union by the large amount of work to be done have undoubtedly made all that they could. But—after having carefully looked at what has been done, as a tax-payer on real estate here—I have seen nothing as yet to impair my confidence in Governor Shepherd and the Board of Public Works.

"Those who oppose improvements are, almost without exception, members of the old Democratic party, who used to crawl from their hiding places during the war whenever there was a Union reverse and hiss with true copperhead venom. A large number of them are note-shavers, and by assailing the District government they stop the collection of taxes, and thus force unpaid contractors to submit to their merciless extortions. Above all, they supply ammunition to the 'independent' revilers of the Administration, sometimes obtaining it from the confidential correspondence of a dead man, but often inventing it. So much for the denouncers of the District Government."

☞ Kansas has a charming political retrospect. The Topeka *Commonwealth* says that Gov. HARVEY, chosen to the United States Senate on the 2nd inst., is the second Senator elected from that State "without the use of money, or the buying of votes." Considering that Kansas has been electing Senators for about fifteen years the fact is not to be contemplated with satisfaction.

A Novel Plant Stand.

A writer in *Scribner's Monthly* recommends a novel plant stand, which for simplicity of construction, economy, durability and beauty is well worthy the consideration of lovers of plants and flowers. The great objection to most flower stands is their expense, which places them beyond the reach of the masses, and the large space which they require, which, in small rooms, cannot be given them. All these objections, however, are overcome by a plant stand constructed as follows:

A box three feet long, a foot and a half wide across the bottom, and eighteen inches deep, is made of common pine. The sides flare outward, so that, at the top, they measure six or eight inches more, from edge to edge, than at the bottom. This box stands on four legs with castors, and under the bottom of the box, a piece of wood fancifully cut on the edge (a sort of pine valance), holds the legs firmly and symmetrically together. The top of the box is nearly even with the window-sill, and when the whole is constructed, it may be either painted in colors, or stained dark brown, to match the furniture wood. The inside of the box is better preserved from decay, if lined with zinc or tin; but it will last one, possibly, two seasons, without any lining at all. Over the bottom is spread a three-inch layer of bits of broken flower-pots, and on this is set a double row of pots or as many as will stand evenly on the surface. Then a thick layer of sand is poured on the broken pieces, and the rest of the space filled up with earth till it is even with the top of the flower-pots. In the beds thus formed, bulbs and slips are planted between the pots, and vines are started at the corners. When the latter are well under way, wires, on which the vines twist, are fastened diagonally from corner to corner, forming a beautiful green arch over what seems to be a bed taken bodily from the garden. Sometimes a tiny hanging basket, or an ivy growing in water, is hung from where the wires cross in the arch, but, even without it, there is no appearance of bareness. A carpenter will make the box for two dollars and a half, and the rest, painting and all can readily be done at home.

☞ Bishop CHENEY, of the Reformed Episcopal Church, having said, in a recent sermon, that Rev. S. H. TYNG, Jr., of New York, was in "hearty sympathy" with the New Church, a reporter of the New York *Times* called on Mr. TYNG to ascertain the truth. He reports Mr. TYNG as saying:

"Well, sir, the Bishop is quite right; he is perfectly correct in his statement. He says I am in sympathy with the movement, and so I am. I am in sympathy with every Christian church movement throughout the world. Bishop Cheney is a very dear friend of mine, and I have watched the movement in which he is engaged with a great deal of interest. I sympathize with the movement because he is a very dear friend of mine, and because I have many friends in the movement who are good Christian people."

To a suggestion of the reporter that people generally do not discriminate so closely as to the meaning of words, and that the report that he was in sympathy with the movement led many to suppose that he was *engaged* in it, Mr. Tyng replied: "That is just where I may not be understood, but I have endeavored to be understood in the matter, for I have preached two sermons on it within a short time, in which I have explained my views. I am, as I said before, in sympathy with the movement, but I am not in it. People generally who know me are, I think, tolerably well aware of the fact that that I do not say one thing and mean another, and when I say that my sympathies are with this movement, I mean it. I am in favor of any movement which may tend to expand the scope and fill the aims of the Christian Church everywhere."

☞ The Republicanism of Gov. HARVEY, the recently elected Senator from Kansas, having been questioned by some, the Republican papers of that State unite in saying that his devotion to the Republican cause dates from its very birth, that he never was known to flinch or falter in its support, and that there is no stronger or more consistent Republican in Kansas to-day than he. He is said to be a farmer, and a practical man of business, who has made his way in life by his own energy and industry. His election is for once a triumph of honesty in the Kansas Legislature.

☞ Senator SHERMAN's bill to bring about a return to specie payments January 1st., 1875, provides that after that date gold shall be paid by the Government in exchange for its notes. But if Government does not happen to have enough gold, the notes will be redeemed in untaxable bonds, payable in gold in ten years, and bearing 5 per cent. interest. The notes redeemed may be re-issued in payment of the public debt or the expenses of the Government. The bill also establishes free banking.

☞ VICTORIA WOODHULL BLOOD and her husband recently visited Des Moines, Iowa, and were recognized as Dr. and Mrs. HARVEY, who visited that place some eight years ago, as cancer doctors, but left suddenly, forgetting to pay several little bills. The persuasive tones of the sheriff induced them to liquidate the accounts on their recent trip. VICK, in her time, has played many parts, that of paymaster not being a favorite with her.

☞ The $20,000,000 loan of 1858 is being paid but not as was promised when the bill for renewing the loan failed to pass. It was said that the holders were willing to take five per cent. bonds in exchange for those of '58. The last report from the treasury shows that $5,458 000 have been paid in gold, and $8,581 000 have been exchanged. Total, $14,036,000 redeemed and exchanged, leaving $5,961,000 to be paid or exchanged.

☞ On the 9th inst., a test vote as to the position of the two parties in Congress on the demand of the Grange movement for Congress to control railroads crossing State lines was taken, on a resolution offered by Hon. J. Q. SMITH, of Ohio. The Democrats interposed dilatory motions, but the Republicans by almost a party vote, sustained the resolution. The Democratic politicians are not in sympathy with the farmers.

☞ The flaming record of ANDREW JOHNSON pales its ineffectual fires before the incoming glory of Gov. HARTRANFT, of Pennsylvania. He has just sent eighty-two veto messages to the Legislature. And HARTRANFT is weeping over a dozen or two bills that he meant to veto, but carelessly overlooked.

☞ They have a young lady in Vermont who measures six feet eight from the crown of her head to the soles of her feet, and the young men are all wondering, if "matches are made in heaven," who will get this precious piece of "lengthened sweetness, long drawn out."

☞ JEFF DAVIS says he could kill FOOTE at the first fire; but he so hates this country that he never will do it.

RADWAY'S PREPARATIONS.

The Wonders of Modern Chemistry.

SARSAPARILLIAN AND ITS ASSOCIATES.

CHANGES AS SEEN AND FELT AS THEY DAILY OCCUR,

After Using a Few Doses of

DR. RADWAY'S SARSAPARILLIAN RESOLVENT

The Great Blood Purifier.

1. Good spirits, disappearance of weakness, languor, melancholy; increase and hardness of flesh and muscles, etc.

2. Strength increases, appetite improves, relish for food, no more sour eructations or waterbrash, good digestion, calm and undisturbed sleep, awaken fresh and vigorous.

3. Disappearance of spots, blotches, pimples; the skin looks clear and healthy, the urine changed from its turbid and cloudy appearance to a clear sherry or amber color, water passes freely from the bladder through the urethra without pain or scalding; little or no sediment; no pain or weakness.

4. Marked diminution of quantity and frequency of involuntary weakening discharges (if afflicted that way), with certainty of permanent cure. Increased strength exhibited in the secreting glands and functional harmony restored to the several organs.

5. Yellow tinge on the white of the eyes, and the swarthy, saffron appearance of the skin changed to a clear, lively and healthy color.

6. Those suffering from weak or ulcerated lungs or tubercles will realize great benefit in expectorating freely the tough phlegm or mucous from the lungs, air-cells, bronchi or wind-pipe, throat or head; diminishing of the frequency of cough; general increase of strength throughout the system, stoppage of night sweat and pains and feeling of weakness around the ankles, legs, shoulders, etc.; cessation of cold and chills, sense of suffocation; hard breathing and paroxysms of cough on lying down or arising in the morning. All these distressing symptoms gradually and surely disappear.

7. As day after day the SARSAPARILLIAN is taken, new signs of returning health will appear; as the blood improves in strength and purity disease will diminish, and all foreign and impure deposits, nodes, tumors, cancers, hard lumps, etc., be resolved away and the unsound made sound and healthy; ulcers, fever sores, syphilitic sores, chronic skin diseases gradually disappear.

8. In cases where the system has been salivated, and Mercury, Quicksilver, Corrosive Sublimate have accumulated and become deposited in the bones, joints, etc., causing caries of the bones, rickets, spinal curvatures, contortions, white swellings, varicose veins, etc., the SARSAPARILLIAN will resolve away these deposits and exterminate the virus of the disease from the system.

9. If those who are taking these medicines for the cure of Chronic, Scrofulous, or Syphilitic diseases, however slow may be the cure, "feel better," and find their general health improving, their flesh and weight increasing or even keeping its own, it is a sure sign that the cure is progressing. In these diseases the patient either gets better or worse—the virus of the disease is not inactive; if not arrested and driven from the blood, it will spread and continue to undermine the constitution. As soon as the SARSAPARILLIAN makes the patient "feel better" every hour you will grow better and increase in health, strength, and flesh.

The great power of this remedy is in diseases that threaten death—as in CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS and Tuberculous Phthisis, Scrofula, Syphiloid Diseases, Wasting, Degeneration and Ulceration of the Kidneys, Diabetes, Stoppage of Water (instantaneous relief afforded where catheters have to be used, thus doing away with the painful operation of using these instruments) dissolving stone in the bladder, and in all cases of inflammation of the Bladder and Kidneys in Chronic cases of Leucorrhea and Uterine diseases.

In tumors, nodes, hard lumps, and syphiloid ulcers; in dropsy; in venereal sore throat, ulcers, and in tubercles of the lungs; in gout, dyspepsia, rheumatism, rickets; in mercurial deposits—it is in these terrible forms of disease, where the human body has become a complete wreck, and where every hour of existence is torture, wherein this great remedy challenges the astonishment and admiration of the sick. It is in such cases, where all the pleasures of existence appear cut off from the unfortunate, and by its wonderful, almost supernatural agency it restores the hopeless to a new life and new existence where this great remedy stands alone in its might and power.

In the ordinary skin diseases that every one is more or less troubled with, a few doses will in most cases, and a few bottles in the more aggravated forms, work a permanent cure.

Those afflicted with chronic diseases should purchase a package containing one dozen bottles. Price—$10 per dozen, or $5 per half dozen bottles, or $1 per bottle. Sold by druggists.

R. R. R.

Radway's Ready Relief

CURES THE WORST PAINS

In from One to Twenty Minutes.

NOT ONE HOUR.

after reading this advertisement, need any one SUFFER WITH PAIN.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF IS A CURE FOR EVERY PAIN.

It was the first and is

The Only Pain Remedy

that instantly stops the most excruciating pains, allays Inflammations, and cures Congestions, whether of the Lungs, Stomach, Bowels, or other glands or organs, by one application.

IN FROM ONE TO TWENTY MINUTES, no matter how violent or excruciating the pain, the RHEUMATIC, Bed-ridden, Infirm, Crippled, Nervous, Neuralgic, or prostrated with disease may suffer.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

WILL AFFORD INSTANT EASE.
INFLAMMATION OF THE KIDNEYS,
INFLAMMATION OF THE BLADDER,
INFLAMMATION OF THE BOWELS,
CONGESTION OF THE LUNGS,
SORE THROAT, DIFFICULT BREATHING,
PALPITATION OF THE HEART,
HYSTERICS, CROUP, DIPTHERIA,
CATARRH, INFLUENZA,
HEADACHE, TOOTHACHE,
NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM,
COLD CHILLS, AGUE CHILLS.

The application of the READY RELIEF to the part or parts where the pain or difficulty exists, will afford ease and comfort.

Twenty drops in half a tumbler of water will in a few moments cure CRAMPS, SPASMS, SOUR STOMACH, HEARTBURN, SICK HEADACHE, DIARRHEA, DYSENTERY, COLIC, WIND IN THE BOWELS and all INTERNAL PAINS.

Travelers should always carry a bottle of RADWAY'S READY RELIEF with them. A few drops in water will prevent sickness or pains from change of water. It is better than French Brandy or Bitters as a stimulant.

FEVER AND AGUE.

FEVER AND AGUE cured for fifty cents.—There is not a remedial agent in this world that will cure Fever and Ague, and all other Malarious, Bilious, Scarlet, Typhoid, Yellow, and other Fevers (aided by RADWAY'S PILLS) so quick as RADWAY'S READY RELIEF. Fifty cent per bottle.

DR. RADWAY'S PERFECT PURGATIVE AND REGULATING PILLS

perfectly tasteless, elegantly coated with sweet gum, purge, regulate, purify, cleanse and strengthen. Radway's Pills for the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Nervous Diseases, Headache, Constipation, Costiveness, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Bilious Fever, Inflammation of the Bowels, Piles, and all Derangements of the Internal Viscera. Warranted to effect a positive cure. Purely Vegetable, containing no mercury, minerals, or deleterious drugs.

☞ Observe the following symptoms resulting from Disorders of the Digestive Organs:

Constipation, Inward Piles, Fullness of the Blood in the Head, Acidity of the Stomach, Nausea, Heartburn, Disgust of Food, Fullness or Weight in the Stomach, Sour Eructations, Sinking or Fluttering at the Pit of the Stomach, Swimming of the Head, Hurried and Difficult Breathing, Fluttering at the Heart, Choking or Suffocating Sensations when in a Lying Posture, Dimness of Vision, Dots or Webs before the Sight, Fever and Dull Pain in the Head, Deficiency of Perspiration, Yellowness of the Skin and Eyes, Pain in the Side, Chest and Limbs, and sudden Flushes of Heat, Burning in the Flesh.

A few doses of RADWAY'S PILLS will free the system from all the above named disorders. Price, 25 cents per box. Sold by Druggists.

READ "FALSE AND TRUE." Send one letter-stamp to RADWAY & CO., No. 32 Warren St., New York. Information worth thousands will be sent you.

To Our Correspondents.

Questions for this department of the BLADE should be written plainly, and on one side of the sheet only. They should be kept separate from communications regarding subscriptions, books, specimen copies, and other matters of a purely business character. The latter either should be written on a separate sheet, or with a blank line dividing them from the questions. The full name and address should accompany each letter.

A. B. H., Beaver, Pa.—Rancid lard may be purified by trying it over with a little water, adding a few raw potatoes in slices. The potatoes seem in some manner to remove the bad taste from the lard.

W. H. S., Beaver, Pa.—If you will read the 2d page of the cover of the NATIONAL MONTHLY for February, you will readily see why you received no number marked December. Consult the numbers of your magazines and you will see that there is no break.

S. P. F., Perrysburg, O.—From sundown Friday evening until the same time Saturday evening.

A. J. H., Port Clinton, O.—"Chaperone," is pronounced as is spelled "shap-er-own."—"Yankee" is supposed to be a corrupt pronunciation of the French word *Anglais*, which means *English*, by the native Indians.

A SUBSCRIBER, Kingston.—We think the law of Maryland in regard to the estate of a man who has left no will, is the same as that of other States. This law was given in the BLADE only a few weeks ago.

A. G. H., Brookhels, Dak. Ter.—Asks:—"If a man takes a fractional quarter lying on township lines, and the fraction overruns, is he compelled to take the whole?" No. If it is minimum land he can have 160 acres, and no more.

A. D. M., Nebraska.—asks:—"If a young, unmarried man takes a homestead and lives on it four years, and then becomes insane, can it be cancelled for not having been proven, or can his mother, who is a widow, enter it for him?" In the eyes of the law an insane man is as if he was dead, and the U. S. laws say, "Where a homestead settler dies before the consummation of his claim, the heirs may continue the settlement and cultivation, and obtain title upon requisite proof at the proper time." So we think his mother can go on and enter the land.

N. C. A., Weston, O.—Apply to "Register U. S. Land Office" at either Topeka or Junction City, Kansas, or at Lincoln, Nebraska. We do not know which State would suit you the best; that is a question no one but yourself can properly answer. The widow of a soldier who enlisted in June 1862, is entitled to $100 bounty.

I. L. McG., Sandusky, Iowa.—The work referred to is Scott's complete Poetical Works, and does not include his novels.

T. S. PINCHBACK, (no address), asks, 1. Where is John C. Fremont? 2. Is it true that he has been convicted of some crime and sentenced to prison? 3. What was his politics before he joined the Republican party? 4. What President received the largest number of electoral votes? 5. Was ever a President elected by electoral votes, when his opponent really had a majority of popular votes? 6. What was Gov. Dix's majority? Ans. 1. In Germany. 2. Yes; in France he was tried about some Railroad bonds and convicted. 3. Democratic. 4. General Grant. 5. No. 6. 53,451.

WM. McFARLAND, Cambridge, O.—According to our understanding the moment a man receives a patent of his land, just that moment the land belongs to him. Now taxes are laid on all land except such as is owned by the Government, consequently this man would have to pay taxes just as all others do. The point that puzzles you is that you think a man should have the same time when he preempts as he would have if he took a homestead. A homesteader has five years, but he does not own his land all this time; the title is in the Government, while the pre-emptor has a perfect title to his land, and can sell it if he chooses, after six months.

A. J. M., Conneaut, O.—If he were the only son and the parents were depending upon him for support, they can draw a pension, providing no widow or minor child survives; otherwise they cannot.

R. A. P., Claysville, O.—"Eminent Women" began in November, 1872.

J. H. C., Pulaski, Co., Ill.—We have never had any experience with the gas.

HEMATITE, Negaunee, Mo.—We do not find any reference to Orion's "Underground Treasures," in our catalogues. Try American News Co., New York City.

VETERAN, Wyoming, Neb.—You are entitled to only so much of the veteran's bounty as accrued from time of mustering in to time of promotion to a commissioned officer. Your commission cuts you off from balance.

D. P., Marseilles.—We gave all the particulars in regard to the Knoxville affair that we had. We have no further information in our possession.

COUNTRY GREENHORN, Franklin, N. Y.—Philopena is from two Greek words signifying "a love penalty." After having eaten "philopena," the one who takes anything directly from the other must pay the forfeit. This forfeit should be presented in the same manner as you would offer any other gift.

HARD SCOTT, Watertown, Conn.—We think you will find what you want by addressing Brown & Gross, Hartford, Ct.

F. M. A., (no address.)—There is no statute which requires the President to issue a Thanksgiving proclamation. He merely follows a very good custom.

T. W. A., Eaton, Ind.—We commend to you Cooke's "New Chemistry," just published by D. Appleton & Co., New York City. In that work the Atomic Theory is very ably discussed.

ARTHUR WELDING, Spring Hill, Ill.—Better send full statement of the case to T. W. Tallmadge, Columbus, Ohio, and let him draw up the papers for you.

W. F. F., Riceville, Neb.—No such law has been passed as yet. There have been some such bills introduced, but they have not yet been acted upon.

T. C. W., LaHarpe,—asks, "What would be the expense of a trip to Europe, steerage passage, and the cheapest travel possible while there? Taking in England, France, Italy and Germany. We want to travel to see and not to be seen." Steerage passage to Liverpool will cost you $30. Provisions are furnished by the steamer, but you must do your own cooking. We have estimated that a trip which would include three weeks in England, one week in Ireland and Scotland, three weeks in France, a month in Germany and Switzerland, and two weeks in Italy, could be made for $200. Several going together could travel cheaper than one or two.

FROG TOWN, Toledo, O.—1. "How long does it take to outlaw a note in Indiana? 2. How long before a book account is outlawed in the same State? 3. What is the duty of a groomsman? 4. Is my writing fit to be seen by an intelligent community?" Ans. 1. Twenty years. 2. Six years from last item on either side of the account. 3. We answered this question not long ago. 4. It depends. There is plenty of room for improvement.

J. T. B., Moorefield, O.—We would be glad to help you but we have no addresses such as you ask for.

A. W. G., Alfred Centre.—Mr. Locke has not a brother John.

EX-SOLDIER, (no address).—The time would probably begin with the day you were mustered in. Time served as an officer would be added to the time you served as a private.

E. W. S., Antioch, Ind.—The law is, "A settler abandoning his claim cannot thereafter make a second entry." We do not understand from your letter that you did make an entry. If you did not, of course you have a perfect right to take a homestead now.

MARY CLARK, Montgomery Co., Ind.—If you will state the circumstances of the case, we will give you our opinion as to whether there is any pension due or not.

HOWARD COOK, Oak Hill, Penn.—You are undoubtedly entitled to another $100 bounty under the act July 28th, 1866. Whether you are entitled to a pension or not is not so clear. We advise you to give the matter into the hands of T. W. Tallmadge, Columbus, Ohio.

ASHTON, Carbon Co., Penn.—Money received for letter boxes by postmasters belongs to the government. Postmasters are paid salaries; offices being rated according to the business they do.

ELIZABETH DONER, Enterprise, Pa.—Dick & Fitzgerald, New York City, publish many such books; send to them for a catalogue.

W. M. ROBSON, Slatington, Penn.—You do not state the case clearly enough. Let us know whether he was a veteran or only enlisted in a veteran regiment. Had he been in the army prior to his enlistment of February 17, 1864? Has he had any bounty at all? Give full particulars and your case will have attention.

ADDRESS WANTED.—If any of our readers know the address of George W. Shears, formerly Captain, Co. A, 12th Ill. Cavalry, they will confer a favor by sending same to G. W. Forsyth, Stillwater Minn.

QUI VIVE, Jolliet, Ill.—Your question is a very vague one, we do not get your meaning.

AMATEUR, Carleton, Neb., asks: "1. Are there any land-grant railroads in Oregon? 2. Is Hon. L. P. Grove, of Salem, an immigration agent? 3. Is there any government land in the San Joaquin Valley, Cal.? 4. Where can I obtain a history of the Friendly and Sandwich Islands? 5. Are there any Americans on the Friendly Island engaged in coffee culture? 6. Where can I get information about coffee raising? 7. What is the size and style of the book, "Wonders of the World?"—Answers—1. Yes; we suppose every railroad there has had land grants. 2. We do not know that he is. 3. Write to "Register, U. S. Land Office," Stockton, Cal. 4. Write to Harper & Brothers, New York City, enclosing $1.50. 5. The book will probably tell. 6. There is an English work on the subject, but it is very expensive. 7. We answered this question on our editorial page several weeks ago.

W. C. L., Louisville, Wis.—We think a stage is subject to the same road laws as other vehicles. A man cannot take a homestead and pre-empt at the same time, but he can first pre-empt, and when he has fulfilled the requirements of the law he can then take advantage of the homestead law or *vice versa*. There is plenty of land in Nebraska yet to be had.

G. W. F., Stillwater, Minn.—If you received $150 bounty, that was all you were entitled to, providing you were discharged for disability received from sickness, but if your disability came from a wound, you are entitled to the full $400.

N. SHAVER.—Send us full name and the date of the paper the question was in, and we will send you the paper. We cannot answer old questions over, so many times.

CEPHAS, Montmorency.—"Is it the custom to have the ceremony of marriage performed over at the Golden Marriage?" That is entirely a matter of taste; it is done frequently, however. It is proper for a lady to ask a gentleman to "call again," if she wishes him to do so.

MILWAUKEE.—Some one in Milwaukee, under date of Nov. 1, sent us some questions, but was careful not to sign his name or anything else to his letter, consequently it has lain here until others, who had signed their names as we request correspondents to do, have been attended to. The piano was invented by J. C. Schroeder of Dresden in 1717. We doubt if any one knows when the St. Louis or East River Bridges will be completed.

DUMB HUNDRED, Germantown, O.—House flies spend most of their life about manure yards. We know of no book on "Practical Jokes." Give you a dozen questions suitable for a debating society, eh? Oh no, our aim is to make boys think, not to help them *not think*.

J. W. SAFFRON, Oak Ridge, Ill.—says he was a member of Co. B., 70th Reg't, Ohio Vet. Vol. Inf., and that when his troops were encamped about Louisville June 12, 1865, there was a collection taken up to purchase a residence for Gen. Sherman. Each soldier contributing, was to have an engraved portrait of Sherman, but he has never received any such portrait, nor has he ever heard of the house being presented to him. If any of our readers know anything about the matter, we would be glad to hear from them.

E. K., Woodville, O.—We have nothing in our library that answers your question.

E. W. C., Florence, Kan., asks:—1st. "What are the fees under the homestead bill? 2d Have the public a right to examine the books to see if there are any vacant lands? 3d. If a man produces false evidence in court, can he be tried for perjury?" 1st. The total fees and commissions on 40 acres minimum land are $7, on 80 acres $9, on 160 acres $18. 2d. Certainly. The land agents have maps on which they mark off land which is sold, and these maps are as much for the convenience of the public as for the use of the agents. 3d. If a man swore falsely he can be tried for perjury. If he procures another man to swear falsly for him, he lays himself equally liable. If you have evidence of this kind, bring it to the notice of the Prosecuting Attorney, who is bound to lay it before the grand jury.

J. C. J., Waxford County, Mich.—Asks, 1st. Can a man be prosecuted for stealing pine, by the Government, when he buys it from a homesteader? 2d. Does not the homesteader forfeit his claim when he offers timber for sale? 3d. Does a man forfeit his claim if he cuts down pine that is spoiling and makes shingles of it? 4th. If a homesteader puts up a notice forbidding men to run deer, will it hold in law, or can they claim that the land belongs to the Government? 5th. Has an assessor any right to assess land after the homesteader has been on it five years, if he has not proved up his claim? 6th. If he has such a right, how can he collect taxes on land belonging to the Government. 1st. No. 2d. He has as much right to sell timber from his land as to sell his crops. 3d. No. 4th. His notice will be held legal. 5th. The land belongs to the government until the homesteader takes out his papers. 6th. He has no such right.

RURAL.—Will some of our readers please tell us what is the best corn for manufacturing into hominy? RURAL wants to know.

CONSTANT READER, Plum Grove, Kan.—says, "A soldier's widow enters a quarter section of land under the homestead law, and then runs off leaving three children, *all minors*. They hold her homestead papers, what steps must they take to secure the land?" They should have an executor or guardian appointed over them, and he can go on and complete the necessary steps.

JNO. GRABBACH, Kearney, Neb.—We have no means of knowing about the land, drop a line to the "Register U. S. Land Office," Lincoln, Neb.

J. T., Jr., Florence, Pa.—Your question is not a very plain one. You ask, "How many numbers are contained in one inch of a wire gauge?" We do not understand you. Do you mean what number would an inch wire be?

LIZZIE LAWRENCE, Crary's Mills, N. Y.—You would like the names of all the Governors of N. Y., and the date of their election. That is too long a matter for these columns. We would be glad to accommodate you, but we cannot give up so much room to a question that would have no general interest. You ask: "If a soldier's widow marries after having drawn a pension, do her children draw her pension afterwards in addition to their own?" No. The law says the pension shall cease upon her re-marriage.

J. W. S., Medina, O.—We never heard of the book "Wiley Fully." Why do you spoil the looks of your letter with such a flourish under your name?

W. W. B., Madison, O., asks: 1. "If I should pre-empt 160 acres of land what would I have to pay? 2. What improvements would I have to make? 3. Would I have to stay on the place for five years? 4. Where are the land offices in Oregon? 5. What part of the west would you advise a young single man to go to?" 1. You would have to pay a Register's commission and fees amounting to $18, and $1.25 per acre for the land. 2 and 3. You would have to remain on the land six months, but no improvements are required. 4. In Oregon City, Roseburg and Le Grand. 5. We would not undertake to advise you on so important a matter. Land that we might like you might not. Read letters about the west and decide for yourself.

MODESTUS, West Irving, Iowa.—You seem to want a thick black ink, but you are not wise for finding fault as you do. We gave a receipt last week for a good black ink. The best ink is that which is a little pale at first. It will penetrate farther into the paper while an ink, such as you want, would dry on the surface and would not penetrate at all. Try Carter's blue-black ink; we think you would like that, and it can be bought at any book store. We do not know of any Smith's dictionary of the English language. There is a Smith's Classical Dictionary. If you want an English Dictionary, get Webster's. For a history of all nations get Putnam's "Worlds Progress," price $3 50. Address G. P. Putnam's Sons New York City.

CARL ROSA UTK.—asks, 1st. "If a young man at the age of 21 has money enough to support a wife, but is naturally a little wild, would you advise him to marry and try and settle down? 2d. How old should a young lady be before she should keep company with a gentleman?" 1. We would advise the young man to "settle down" before he was married. Twenty-one is a very early age for any man to marry, and speaking in general terms, is too young. If the young man will take three or four years more in establishing himself in good habits and in storeing his mind with knowledge, he will make a better husband at 25. 2d. Some girls are mature at fifteen, others are mere girls at twenty. She should have a good education and have learned to think for herself, before the thoughts of marriage were allowed to enter her mind.

G. W. G., Sidney, Ill.—You are behind the times. Connecticut has abolished one of her Capitals. Rhode Island has two Capitals, however. You ask us, 1st. Does such a State have two sets of officers? 2d. How do they do their business? 3d. Do they work harmoniously?—4th. Are their taxes very high? We answer to all the questions that the only difference in the States having two capitals, is that the Legislature meets in each capitol alternately. The officers &c., are the same as if there was but one capital.

WINDING RIVER.—Do not trust yourself in the hands of any such men. You had much better call on some good physician near home. Humphrey's remedies are considered standard by that branch of the profession.

SCHOOL BOY, Iowa.—Address Henry Carey Baird, Philadelphia, Pa., for works on Engineering. An engineer must be a good machinist.

T. T. J., Rush Run, O.—No relation.

TRAPPER, Lone Tree Lake, Minn.—You are entitled to but $200 bounty.

H. H. R., York, N. Y., asks: "If a town guarantees Railroad bonds and a part of the bonds are sold, is the town obliged to pay the bonds if the intended road is not built?" This is a somewhat intricate question. If the bonds were issued and made payable only when the road was built, of course they can not be collected before that time. But if they were subjected to no proviso, and were a gift to the railroad corporation and had been sold by it to other parties, we think such parties could collect them.

NETTIE asks: "Is a soldier's minor child entitled to pension from date of death of parent, or only from time of application?" The law is: "If the parent died prior to July 14, 1862, of a cause which originated subsequent to March 4, 1861, or where he died subsequent to the former date, the pension will commence from date of discharge, provided he had a claim pending which was filed within five years after his discharge; otherwise it will commence from date of death."

SOLDIER BOY, Clear Creek, Iowa, asks: "Can a father claim the bounty of his minor son when he has given him a written permit to go?" We think he could.

J. D. B., Hillsboro, O.—The measure of a mile is not the same in all countries. For example, an Irish mile is 2,240 yards; a Scotch mile is 1,984 yards; an English or statute mile is 1,760 yards; a German mile is 1,806 yards; and a Turkish mile is 1,826 yards.

P. P. B., Keokuk, Iowa.—The celebrated "Dark Day," to which you have seen so many references, was the 19th of May, 1780. It was so called on account of a remarkable darkness that extended all over New England, beginning about 10 o'clock in the morning, and lasting till the middle of the next night. The birds sang their evening songs, disappeared and were silent; fowls went to roost, and cattle sought the barn-yard. We think we answered this question about a year ago.

VOLUNTEER, Bucyrus, O.—We can best answer your question in regard to the additional bounty voted to early volunteers, by quoting from a letter just received from T. W. Talmadge, Bounty and Pension Agent at Columbus, Ohio, in which he says: "Although I have not as yet a copy of the law, my information is that an act has passed Congress giving $100 bounty to all soldiers who enlisted between May 3d and August 18th, 1861, who have never received a bounty under that enlistment, and who were not promoted, which extends the benefits of the law of April 22d, 1872, to those who enlisted between July 22d and August 18th, 1861. I am ready as ever to present such claims which are entrusted to my care, or reply to any inquiries on the subject."

FARMER'S DAUGHTER, Grafton, W. Va.—The inventor of the process by which "condensed milk" is prepared, was Gail Borden Esq., who died in Colorado Co., Texas, on the 11th of January. He first attained celebrity as the inventor of meat biscuit.

LINGUIST, Hudson, N. Y.—The term "filibuster" is of spanish origin. The river Vly, in Holland, is said to have furnished the name *flyboat*, in English,—in Spanish *flibote*, or by softening the first syllable, *filibote*—to a sort of small fast sailing vessel of about 100 tons burden, which, in the 17th century, held in sailing qualities about the same place now occupied by the Baltimore clippers. The buccaneers of the West Indies, who began their depredations on Spanish commerce in mere rowboats, as they acquired the means of a more formidable outfit, selected these crafts as best suited to their purpose. Hence they became known in French as *flibustiers*, and in Spanish as *filibusteros*, an appellation gradually extended in those languages to a kind of pirates. By a still more extended meaning in the United States, this term has come to be applied to designate any military enterprise set on foot, and prosecuted against the government of any State or country where no war exists, by mere adventurers seeking to overthrow such government, and destroy the domestic institutions of its people for the enrichment of the adventurers themselves.

Locomotion in Constantinople is, under certain circumstances, accompanied by a pleasing excitement beyond that caused by the actual journey. All persons using the Tramway company's cabs receive from the driver a printed slip bearing a number, and every two months a lottery is drawn, the winning numbers gaining various prizes. At the last drawing the prize of £20 fell to the lot of the lucky owner of No. 51,547. This lottery is, says the Levant Herald, not only an amusement to the public, but it enables the company to exercise a pecuniary control over the honesty of their drivers, as the books from which these numbers are drawn have counterfoils with corresponding numbers, and persons who use the cabs have an interest in preserving the tickets given to them.

Revenue Collections.

The Secretary of the Treasury having been called upon by a resolution of the House, for copies of all contracts with the Treasury Department for the discovering and collecting of moneys belonging to the United States, whenever sale shall be withheld by any person or corporation, &c., sent on the 10th inst., the following letter to the House:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Feb. 10.

"In response to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 27th ult., I have the honor to transmit herewith, copies of contracts given to the Secretary of the Treasury, in the act entitled 'an act making appropriations for Legislative, Executive and Judicial expenses of the government, for the year ending June 30th, 1873, and for other purposes,' approved May 8th, 1872. The enclosed transcripts contain the texts of the contracts made, except the names of persons and corporations alleged to be indebted to the Government. I have not caused lists of such names to be annexed to the copies, for the reason that the contracts are based upon a claim that the parties and corporations named have withheld taxes due the Government. The allegations are supposed to involve a degree of fraud, and they may or may not be well-founded, and I have therefore felt that justice to the parties charged required of me, in the administration of the law in question, to avoid any unnecessary publicity in regard to these allegations before they shall be found upon investigation to be well founded. The names will, of course, be furnished, if under these circumstances the House is of the opinion that they should be furnished.

"I have the honor to be,
"Very respectfully,
"WM. A. RICHARDSON,
"Secretary of the Treasury.

"Hon. James G. Blaine, Speaker of the House of Representatives."

The copies of contracts accompany this letter. The first is between Geo. S. Boutwell, Secretary of the Treasury, and Wm. H. Kelsey, of New York. The latter was one of three persons delegated to assist the proper officers of the Government in discovering and collecting moneys belonging to the United States withheld by certain persons or corporations under the provisions of the act of May, 1872. The amount he proposed to recover or assist in recovering was about $100,000, which amount was claimed to be due for Internal Revenue taxes. It was agreed to pay Kelsey in full for his services, and for all costs and expenses of such collection a sum equal to 50 per cent. of the gross sum collected and received, the balance of the money to be paid into the Treasury. The above contract was surrendered by Mr. Kelsey, and immediately thereafter renewed with Malcolm Campbell, of Philadelphia.

The next contract was in August, 1872, between William A. Richardson, Acting Secretary of the Treasury, and John D. Sanborn, of Boston, who claimed that $500,000 were due upon spirituous and fermented liquors as well as in making false returns of the amount manufactured, and evading the payment of the tax upon them, which was wholly due under several acts of Congress. He was to receive 50 per cent. of the gross sum collected, and received in full for his services and all costs and expenses of collection. The contract was revocable at any time by the Secretary of the Treasury.

A contract was made in November, 1872, by George A. Boutwell, with J. Nicholson Elbert, of Philadelphia. The amount he proposed to recover or assist in recovering was $100,000, claimed to be due for internal revenue taxes by certain corporations. He was to receive 50 per cent. on the same conditions as the other contractors.

A contract was made between William A. Richardson and John Clark, of Philadelphia, in September, 1873. Clark was to assist in recovering moneys belonging to the United States withheld by certain deceased persons' estates. The sum he alleged to be due was $20,000. He was to receive 50 per cent. in full compensation for the gross sum collected.

Why Gladstone's Government is Unpopular.

A London letter to the *Nation* says: "This unpopularity of the government is due, I believe, not so much to Radical ingratitude or impatience, or to Whig jealousy and fear, or Nonconformist dissatisfaction, as to a prevailing dislike among all classes and parties of certain members of the Cabinet, and all their works and ways. The British public, I need not tell you, has a horror of anything that savors of the pedant or the pedagogue in power. They dislike austerity and ecclesiasticism, sharp practice and pennywise niggardliness, and a spiritless foreign policy; they discover too much of the High-Church theologian in the Premier, of the college tutor in Mr. Lowe, of the *petit-maître* in Lord Granville; and they are irritated by such trumpery scandals and blunders as the Zanzibar contract and Mr. Shaw-Lefevre's recent purchase of a rotten old packet ship at a fancy price for the transport service on the Gold Coast. They never will forgive Mr. Lowe's screwing as Chancellor of the Exchequer. They don't believe in Mr. Cardwell as a Minister of War, and at this moment they are afraid that Lord Northbrooke is a red-tapist doctrinaire, ridiculously overwhelmed by his responsibilities as Governor-General of India in a time of famine. Perhaps they do Lord Northbrooke gross injustice; and that is my impression. But I cannot better or more briefly explain the sort of unpopularity into which a most conscientious, deserving, and laborious administration has fallen than by calling your attention to the tone, even of liberal journals, in their articles on Mr. Grant Duff's recent annual lecture to his constituents at Elgin. Now, this illustrious representative of Omniscience, who, albeit, in public life a strange compound of the Scottish economist, the German professor, and the French reviewer, is, in private life, really the most modest and aimable of men, is regarded by the British public as the type of the Gladstone administration, with the one redeeming virtue of not being a High Church amateur theologian."

Russian Soldiers—Admirable Discipline

(Letter from Minister Jewell.)

You would be delighted to see the drill of these Russian soldiers. This morning while I was reading your letter there was parading at the Boulevard directly in front of this legation a regiment of cavalry, about eight hundred strong, every horse black, and not a white hair in all the number, of the same height, size and style, standing like statues, while the riders, all large men and equal in drill, wore helmets and breast-plates of brass polished to the highest perfection, with drawn sabres of brightest steel, long, crooked, and intended for business. The exactitude of these regiments are wonderful. Most of the horses are black, but there are regiments of grays and bays, but no mixture. Each horse must have a flowing main and tail. The infantry and artillery are equally closely selected, no diversity of height in a company, and they move like machinery.

Great preparations are being made for the festivities of the coming nuptials of the Duke of Edinburgh with the Russian princess, and daily drills are taking place on the "Cam de Mars." I should guess there were out to-day 4,000 or 5,000 cavalry, as many of artillery, and 10,000 or 15,000 infantry. It's a splendid sight, such as is seen nowhere else. Marching is very rapid, and mostly trumpets, only sometimes accompanied by kettle drums, and for show occasions fine, big military bands. The Emperor and all of the Imperial family are splendid soldiers, and always appear in the uniform of their respective regiments, which makes the military idea the prominent one of the Empire. I want to see no such army in our country—our citizen soldiers are sufficient; but for an absolute monarchy like this it appears to be indispensible.

The Fashion Set by the Stage.

Popular fashion, that fashion which is picked up, and insisted upon by extravagant dress-makers and milliners, which is cheaply copied by shop girls, and points the moral of thousands of economical and denunciatory paragraphs, is now furnished almost wholly by dramatists and actresses. There is no leading authority in society either here or abroad. All the more recent fashions have first appeared upon the stage, and are daring and showey, though sometimes dangerously becoming to beautiful women. But the more thoughtful and intelligent class hesitate more and more in copying these styles. The wardrobes of prominent actresses now of themselves cost a fortune. They are no longer composed of gauze and tinsel, but of the richest silk, real lace and magnificent jewels. Six entirely new dresses worn by an actress in a single play, the other night, were imported from Paris at a cost of $10,000, exclusive of the splendid diamonds and other accessories. All these dresses were remarkable as works of art, and will be copied by women with more money than brains, but they would no more be desired for herself by an intelligent woman than she would wish to exchange her cozy but more sober home for the painted prettiness of the French stage cottage and its elaborate gilt furnishing.

Perhaps some lady readers may like to know of what these six dresses were composed, so without going into details, which would be necessarily complicated and confusing, I will indicate their general style and description of fabric. One was of rich blue silk in two shades, trimmed with a darker shade of velvet than either—and white lace. A third was of black velvet, trained skirt and basque, the latter embroidered with silk and fine jet, and finished with a black fraise lined with white. A fourth was a ball dress of black Brussels net and coral colored silk, trimmed with black lace and garlands of pomegranate blossoms with green leaves. A fifth was a summer dress of ecru pongee and blue crepe, the pongee trimmed with scarfs of blue silk laid in folds and ecru lace; straw hat turned up and trimmed with blue silk folds and pipings, blue and ecru feathers. Sixth, a traveling dress in two shades of brown vigogue, the lighter shade employed for skirt and sleeveless coat, the darker shade for slewed waistcoat, cut long and straight across the front, and fastened with light silk buttons embroidered in the darker shade. Both shades were put together in trimmings, upon the skirt and sleeves.

Death of the man Who Frustrated the Plot to Kill President Lincoln

Eli Devoe was buried near Monmouth, New Jersey, on Wednesday, of last week.

Eli Devoe was one of the best known of New York detectives. At the commencement of the rebellion he entered the service of the Government. When Lincoln started to Washington before his first inauguration, Devoe and Tom Lampson were sent to Baltimore to investigate the rumor that the President would be assassinated in that city. The work was difficult and dangerous, and had to be prosecuted with the utmost secrecy. They managed to mix with the active secessionists, and finally joined a secret society whose intent was to kill Lincoln under the cover of a concerted mob. It had been arranged that the President should be escorted through the streets, and the murder was to have been done while a number of the society attacked and disordered the procession. Devoe and Lampson got the details of the plot as members of the society, and it was upon their information that the expedient of hurrying Lincoln through on another train was adopted. When the plot had failed the society looked about for traitors in their midst, and they soon learned that Devoe and Lampson were not residents of Baltimore. This was enough to arouse their suspicions, and the detectives found it necessary to quit so suddenly that their baggage was left behind. They went to Washington, and were followed by a gang of Baltimore roughs, who infested their hotel, and probably intended vengeance of some kind. But here again detective work towarted any plan that may have been concocted. Another detective, who had gone to Washington as one of the Baltimore gang, found a chance to put Devoe and Lampson on their guard.

Devoe remained in Government employ during the war, at times acting as a spy within the rebel lines, and upon the assassination of Lincoln was one of the many detectives who were put at work to hunt out those concerned in the plot. He arrested Mrs. Surratt, and while at her house detected Paine in the guise of a laborer. The arrest of Paine brought him a large reward.

Senator Sprague's Boy

From a Washington Letter.

One day lately at the breakfast table Senator Sprague said to his son, "You must understand, my boy, that you are the son of a poor man, and will have your own way to make in the world. I have fifty cents in my pocket, not a cent more, so after breakfast I think I'll take you out and get a boot-blacking apparatus for you. You must learn to black your own boots like a poor man's son, you know." The little fellow listened intently, then said: "Well, papa, can't I black your boots and save you something?" "Oh, certainly, if you wish," his father answered. After breakfast the investment was made. The next morning the enterprising youngster rose at daylight, and before anybody was up and could interfere, had blacked every boot and shoe in the Sprague mansion, including a pair of his mother's, which had been bought recently for $19, and which, of course, were utterly ruined.

A Terrible Malediction

Harrodsburg, Ky., Correspondence Courier-Journal.

Curran Owens was one of the most remarkable men that this remarkable section of the State has produced. If he had been educated, and "let liquor alone," what might he not have achieved, since even in his crude, unpolished state he originated metaphors which were wont to astound completely, all who heard them.

"Well, Curran," said a friend, greeting Mr. Owens, the first day after the news of South Carolina's secession reached him! "What do you think of it?"

"What do I think of it?" replied Mr. Owens, drawing himself up full six feet high, "Why, sir, I wish that I were the Great Creator of the universe for only one half-minute, I would mould old mother earth into one vast columbiad; I would load her with shovel plows, harrow teeth, flax hackles, brass-headed snapping-turtles, and all the jig-jugs of h—l, and I would rain them on South Carolina for a thousand years!"

Professor Tyndall on Americans.

The statement made by Professor Goldwin Smith that Americans hate the English, led the London *Telegraph* to call on Professor Tyndall for his observations on the matter. He responded by quoting from the remarks of William M. Evarts, Dr. John W. Draper, and President White of Cornell University on an occasion not specified before he left America. In conclusion, he said: "This, sir, will sufficiently indicate to you my experience of the feeling of the people of the United States towards this country. Either they not hate us, as alleged, or, if they do, the manner in which they suppressed this feeling, out of consideration for a guest, proves them to be the most courteous of nations."

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"L. E. L." (Miss Landon)
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THE WEEKLY BLADE.

D. R. LOCKE. J. P. JONES.

LOCKE & JONES, Proprietors.

TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, FEB. 19, 1874

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THE CHANCE OF ALL CHANCES.

We like, occasionally, to do a liberal thing.

This is our time to do one. Therefore we make this offer:

To the person who sends us the largest number of subscribers to the WEEKLY BLADE *before the first of March we will*

GIVE A SPLENDID ORGAN.

Magnificent for a family instrument, and suitable for a Church or Sunday School,

WORTH $200.00.

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worth $100.00.

For the third largest list, a splendid United States Silver Hunting Cased Watch! worth $40.00!

NOW TAKE NOTICE.

We shall go back and count for all competitors for the three prizes, all the names each has sent us since November, 1873, so that all will get the benefit of what they have done.

AND FURTHER!

Three subscribers to the AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL shall count as one to the WEEKLY BLADE, and two to LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY shall count as one to the same.

AND STILL FURTHER!

Agents competing for these prizes shall RECEIVE THEIR COMMISSIONS THE SAME AS BEFORE. Thus in any case, they get paid for their work.

AND YET AGAIN!

This offer applies to all who want books.

NOW GO TO WORK.

Is there not a church that wants this organ? We may possibly take a notion to distribute several of them. But this one (and it is a beauty) we shall give away anyhow. We will furnish specimens, &c., to all applicants, free.

LOCKE & JONES,
TOLEDO, Ohio.

A WORD OF EXPLANATION.

We have received of late several letters of expostulation and complaint because the writers have not received the books or periodicals ordered through the BLADE. We hope our friends will exercise a little patience, though we feel sure that none of the complainants were ever engaged in carrying on a newspaper. The BLADE has for several weeks past been undergoing the process of removal, and even in the best-ordered establishment, some degree of delay and disarrangement are inevitable. We have been sparing no effort to regain the wonted order of affairs, though with hundreds of orders daily arriving this is no easy task. If our friends will only continue to be a little patient for a few days, we can assure them that everything will come out right, and that all orders will be carefully filled.

LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY.

We have a word for the ears of the three months' subscribers to the NATIONAL MONTHLY. In a few days you will receive the third and last number of our magazine containing "John Duncan's Widow." We trust that the opportunity afforded by this brief acquaintance has enabled you to judge more fully than any statements of ours, of the merits of the magazine, and that the intercourse so pleasantly begun may be continued throughout the year. To all our three months' subscribers who may wish to continue the magazine, we will send the remaining numbers of the volume for the year 1874 on receipt of seventy five cents.

☞ BEGIN A LIBRARY by availing yourself of the BLADE book offer. It will furnish you books of all kinds at one-third to one-half less than you can procure them elsewhere.

TO OUR EXCHANGES—A CORRECTION.

Through the inadvertance of some careless paragraphist, an item has been recently going the rounds of the press which is calculated to do us no slight injustice. The Topeka (Kan.) *Blade* has recently suspended publication and the statement has been made that it was the Toledo BLADE. We trust that our friends will do us the kindness to make a correction of this mis-statement. The Toledo BLADE has never been in a more flourishing condition than now, and never promised a more healthful and vigorous life.

THE WEEK.

Diplomatic circles have been slightly disturbed during the past week by the report of threatened unpleasantness between our own and the French government. The rumor however it is proper to add, is denied by Secretary FISH. Chief Justice WAITE has gone to Washington after having declined a complimentary dinner tendered him by the bar of New York.—During the past week, Congress has been occupied on the army appropriation, currency equalization, bankruptcy, fortification, postal and other bills. Among the important amendments to the last named class of laws, is a bill which has been passed by the House authorizing the sender of books or other printed matter coming under the third class, to write his name on the outside of such matter, or a brief dedication within, and incur no penalty for extra postage. Postmaster General CRESSWELL has recommended the introduction of trains on railways running at high speed and devoted exclusively to mail service, a project which seems to meet with favorable consideration. Provision for the financial needs of the country seems no nearer attainment now than several weeks ago, and late reports from Washington indicate that there is much feeling between Eastern and Western members regarding the widely differing positions taken on the subject of the currency.

A meeting of the Cheap Transportation Association was held in New York on the 10th inst., but while various projects were discussed no definite action was reported.

The distress among the unemployed poor in New York has led the produce Exchange of that city to hold a meeting to take steps for their relief. The members of the Stock Exchange have opened free soup houses in the lower part of the city, to which JAMES GORDON BENNETT has subscribed $30,000.—Rev. CHARLES KINGSLEY, the well known English author arrived in New York on the 11th inst., and was the guest of the Lotus Club on Saturday night last. Speeches were made by WM. M. EVARTS, JAMES PARTON and others.

The sessions of the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry have continued at St. Louis during the greater part of the past week. In another column we give a synopsis of the proceedings together with the "Declaration of Principles" adopted by the organization.—A council of a new order calling themselves the Sovereigns of Industry was organized at St. Louis on the 11th by Grand Master EARLE, of Worcester, Mass. This new order is probably a result of the difficulty between the Patrons of Husbandry and the Boston Grange.—Judge R. C. HURD, of Mt. Vernon, O., President of the C., Mt. V. & C. Railroad, died at his residence on the 11th inst.—RUSH R. SLOAN, late President of the Cincinnati, Sandusky & Cleveland R. R., has been arrested on seventeen charges of embezzlement, the counts of the indictments embracing nearly $300,000.—Reports from Southeastern Ohio show that 80 out of 140 saloons have been closed since the beginning of the famous woman's temperance movement in that section of the State. The work is still progressing with unabated interest.

Returns from the English Parliamentary elections up to the 14th, show that out of 638 members elected, 342 are Conservatives, and 296 Liberals and Home Rulers, a gain to the Conservatives of 58 members.—It is now stated as probable that the form of the Spanish government under the new *regime* will be settled by a *plebiscite*.—The Cubans are in the midst of another flurry, and a mob of some seventeen hundred men gathered in front of the Captain-General's office at Havana, but were dispersed without bloodshed. The Spanish troops have again suffered defeat at the hands of the insurgents, with a loss of some 200 men.—Late news from Japan indicates a disagreeable state of affairs existing between the Government and the Ministers of foreign powers, in which, however, the United States Minister is not involved. Further particulars of the recent attempt upon the life of IWAKURA, with other interesting foreign intelligence, will be found in our news summary.

☞ ONLY THREE DOLLARS will secure all three of our publications for one year. Try them, and you will not hereafter be without them.

☞ The press of Great Britain are now awarding BISMARCK a high degree of credit for his firmness in opposing the plots of the ultramontanes against the German Empire. He cares little, of course, for the prayers which crafty Bishops may put into the mouths of their followers, as far as its effect heavenward is concerned, but he has cause to fear their effects on a populace too much disaffected by priestly appliances now for the comfort of the government. The London *Spectator* says:

"Bismarck either entertains some entirely novel and great design—such as that of raising a new war—or he is alarmed about something not visible, and it is of the highest importance to Europe to find out what that design or that fear is. * * * The Chancellor feels that his battle with the Papacy is a tremendous one, that he must have every liberal vote with him in Bavaria, as in Berlin, and that all the pseudo-concessions he had made must be as absolutely condoned as was Cavour's consent to the ultimate reward of Napoleon by the cession of Nice, a transaction very thinly covered by the plebiscite which Pietri managed so well. The truth is, the Chancellor believes himself not in collision with the Papacy, but at war with the Papacy, and at liberty to use any expedient authorized by war, and that he feels this war, originally entered on from motives of internal policy, to be day by day more serious."

A WORD OF CAUTION.

The Democratic majority in the Ohio Legislature may not be willing to be advised by us; nevertheless, we can tell the gentlemen who compose that majority some truths that it will be to their advantage to consider. Certain local politicians, having Congressional aspirations, have induced that majority to resolve upon redistricting the State for Congressional elections. This is done under the plea that the Districts made by the Republican apportionment are unfair to the Democratic party. The returns of the elections for the last two years do not show this. We have been at some pains to examine the figures, and will give, in few words, the conclusions to which they conduct all fair minded men.

The first, and, as yet, only election under the Districting Act of 1871, was held in 1872, under the excitement of the Presidential election, when the vote of the Republican party was out in more than its average force.

With a majority in Ohio for General GRANT of 37,331, the Democrats elected seven Congressmen out of twenty. Of the thirteen Republicans elected, one had only 427 majority, another 726, and a third 991. Three others had an average majority of 1,400. That can not be a grossly unfair apportionment which in a year exceptionably favorable for the majority gives the minority seven out of twenty, and elects three of their thirteen by an average of 711 majority. So far as massing majorities in any Districts is concerned, the Republican majority in the Ashtabula District is 10,935, while the largest Democratic majority, that of the Auglaize District, is less than half of that, 5,306. The Republican District of Champaign and the Democratic District of Fairfield are about equal. For the rest, the Districts on the one side and the other are as equal as they can be made.

But let us look at the Districts as they stand in the light of last year's election, when the pressure and excitement of the Presidential year was not brought to bear. By the figures made in 1873 nine out of the twenty Districts are Democratic by considerable majorities, and one of the Districts is Republican by less than two hundred votes. Another is Republican by less than four hundred. And two others by less than 700.

A fair districting certainly could not give the Democrats more than nine clear districts with a fair fight for at least three more. And that, too, with one district having nearly 11,000 Republican votes to spare, against the strongest Democratic district squandering only 5,306 majority on its Representative.

These figures give the lie to the charge that the present districting is unfair. Any change that a Democratic caucus may order can only be made with a view to cheat the majority of the people of Ohio out of their representation in Congress. Such a gerrymandering can not fail to call forth such a condemnation as will forever cover those who dare to make it with shame and confusion forever.

But more than this. It is seldom that any Legislature has dared to change an arrangement of districts made at the proper time during the decade for which it was made. The law of Congress does not seem to give legality to such a proceeding. That is a mooted point, to be sure, but one on which the odds would be on the Republican side, by all the discussions and precedents of the past. The Democracy of Ohio, by the voice of its principal leaders, when the Whigs threatened an upsetting of an apportionment of theirs, was against the legality of such a step. But, however that may be, one thing is certain. If the Ohio Legislature, revelling in its strength of an accidental and temporary possession of power, shall upset an arrangement so manifestly fair as we have shown the existing one to be, the Congress of the United States will be bound, by every consideration of duty to the people of Ohio, to set that action aside. And we predict that just that thing will be done. We say it will be done, because we believe it ought to be done. Congress has full control of all matters pertaining to the election of Representatives in the lower House. It cannot stand by and see the majority of the voters of Ohio stripped of their rights. The plainest and most obvious convictions of self-preservation would suggest that no such outrage be submitted to.

In the name of fairness, equity, and the rights of the majority, we say to the Democratic managers—keep hands off. The more prudent of your own number have already said to you the same thing. They seem to have been overborne by the clamor of the hungry aspirants who hope to control the new arrangement for their own benefit. The people ask no change. The present law is as fair a law as can be made by any party. The figures we have given show this. No party can be unjust without, in the end, being the worse for it.

CON. CON.

Official Vote.

The following is the official vote for delegate to the Constitutional Convention, to fill the vacancy made by the withdrawal of Hon. M. R. WAITE, furnished by Mr. M. J. ENRIGHT, Clerk of the Common Pleas Court:

Candidate.	Vote.
James B. Steadman	2182
Wm. Baker	1878
Majority for Steadman	304

Mt. Union College.

The numerous friends of this popular Institution will be gratified to learn that the Winter term, notwithstanding the financial pressure of the times, has been better attended than any Winter term heretofore. The Commercial Department has been a great success. Spring term commences February 24th, Summer term May 12th. Circulars forwarded by addressing Mt. Union College, or Alliance, Ohio.

☞ The New York *World* is angered because, in Michigan, convicts who cannot read and write, are to be taught those accomplishments while in prison. What bothers the *World* is, it is afraid that these convicts, having learned to read and write, will come out of prison Republicans.

WOMAN IN THE PULPIT.

Miss Smiley in Toledo—Large Attendance at her Meetings at St Paul's and the Congregational Churches Yesterday—Who is She?

The very general desire manifested to hear Miss SARAH SMILEY, who, during the past ten years, has gone about the country as an Evangelist, was abundantly illustrated by the immense throngs who attended the two churches in which she spoke yesterday. Miss SMILEY appeared on the rostrum attired in plain black dress, cloak, and bonnet, the two latter being laid aside previous to commencing speaking. She is of medium height, with large expressive eyes beautifying a plain, round face. She appeared at once at home with her audience, who, in turn, attracted by the low, mellow, yet distinct, tones of voice, listened with wrapt attention to her explanation of the simple truths of the Scripture.

Her discourse yesterday morning at the St. Paul's M. E. Church, was based on the Parable of the Sower, the thirteenth chapter of Matthew, being read by Rev. Dr. DONELSON, as prefacing her remarks. The speaker in a winning manner pictured to her hearers the earnestness of our Savior, in the progress of His work, in having His followers not only hearers of the work but doers of the same. The seed of the word of God having concealed in them the gem of eternal joy, are scattered along the journey of life. It is not enough to receive them, but to enjoy the full benefit of their power they must receive the tenderst care, which she likened unto the husbandman, who tills with the greatest care. As illustrating the necessity of a full understanding of the truths, a dream, that appeared to her was very touchingly given: In the midst of a bible class she had taught, she appeared with a basket of seeds on her arm, these were distributed, and not being understood and appreciated, were cast away. After explaining that they were treasures of the choicest kind and of great value, and with care would produce flowers of rare beauty her gifts were received gracefully and tended with care.

"The highway of our lives," said the speaker, "are trampled hard by the passage of many cares and anxieties, here the tiny seeds become an easy prey to the birds of Satan, whose favorite perch is over the door of the sanctuary, and with idle jest or thoughtless word pecks up the tiny seed that under other circumstances might produce so much. The stony ground that all week is given to other thoughts and labors, without thought of the tender seeds dropped within its bosom, soon loses the warmth generated at the time of sowing and dies. The thorny ground she explained are the wants growing out of selfish desires. They may not be wrong in themselves, and in place of asking what is wrong in giving up coveted pleasures, (and some must be given up) why not ask what is the good that is to result? She exhorted her hearers not to be choked christians. The good ground produced some thirty, some sixty, and some one hundred fold. Here she drew attention to the fact that sixty fold was twice as productive as thirty, and one hundred nearly twice as productive as sixty fold. Perfect love, joy and peace were the results of a full development of the seed, and should be earnestly sought for by all lovers of Christ.

At the First

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

in the evening, attendance taxed the capacity of the church to the utmost, many being turned away without securing admission. After the opening exercises, by Rev. Dr. W. WILLIAMS, Miss SMILEY commenced her remarks by speaking of the vision of the ladder of Jacob, in which angels were seen ascending and descending. This she showed was intended not alone for Jacob but for all mankind. Its fulfillment placed man in communication with his maker, giving us Christ and reality in regard to the coming world. This ladder, she explained, was near to all of us, and by putting forth our hands could grasp that which angels are constantly ascending with Christian prayers and descending with replies. This ladder marked out the narrow road to eternal happiness, while the world gave many broad ways that lead far from it. Like a mountain path, marked with a blood-red arrow, she had once traveled, Christ had prepared a path to salvation, and the course, traced in his blood is plain to all who desire to travel. The sermon was filled throughout with telling points, and listened to with the greatest attention.

As many are interested in this remarkable lady, a brief outline of her history cannot but be interesting. She is a native of one of the New England States, where her parents were members of the Society of Friends. When quite young, she visited Philadelphia to engage in teaching, and after a short time, she became a preacher in the Society of Friends, and traveled in Europe in prosecution of her work. Being baptized on her return, she thereby severed her connection with the Society. She is about 35 years of age, and usually retires in summer to a cottage in Saratoga, where she reside alone.

FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Miss SMILEY speaks at 3 P. M. and 7.30 P. M. at the Congregational Church to-day, and to-morrow, the afternoon services consisting of Bible expositions.

Mt. Union College.

We are pleased to call the attention of our readers to the prosperous condition of this Institution. Its facilities for affording a thorough practical education for both sexes, are probably unsurpassed in the country. It furnishes ample means for reducing the aggregate expenses of students. The whole number of different students in attendance last year, was 832. Spring term commences the 24th of February, Summer term the 12th of May. Catalogues and circulars can be had by addressing Mt. Union College, Mt. Union, or Alliance, O.

CONGREGATIONAL.

Annual Meeting of the Toledo Conference.

Thursday night he Toldeo Congregational Conference will hold its seventh annual meeting at the Washington street Chapel, and will continue to-morrow and Thursday. The first exercises come off this evening, at which time the opening sermon will be preached by the Rev. S. W. DICKINSON, of Edgerton, and to-morrow the organization will be perfected.

During the meeting sermons or discussions will take place daily.

The following topics for essays, to be followed by discussion, have been given out:

"What is the limit of faith in God?"—Bro. S. J. BASSFORD, East Toledo.

"Is it expedient for Christians to maintain separate church organizations in small towns?"—Rev. G. H. BAILEY, Toledo.

"How shall prayer meetings be conducted so as to secure the highest interest and profit?"—Bro. R. W. GRAHAM, Sylvania.

One session will be devoted to a Sabbath School service, in connection with which Rev. F. W. DICKINSON, of Wauseon, will preach a Sabbath School sermon.

Reports of the spiritual condition of the churches will be heard: also, the statistical report for 1873.

At some time during the meeting the Lord's Supper will be celebrated.

The State Manual, read at East Cleveland last June, will be presented for criticism and revision.

The Ohio Home Missionary Society will claim some share of time and attention.

A Register and Treasurer and a Home Missionary Committee of three will be elected, and a member will be recommended of the Board of Directors of the Ohio Home Missionary Society.

Delegates are requested to report at the church, corner of Washington and Dorr streets.

☞ The Pope, with all the limitations about which he complains, has about him quite a respectable household. It numbers altogether 1,150 persons. Of these, 20 are chief and sub-chamberlains, 190 spiritual servants, 170 ordinary chamberlains, 30 officers of the Papal Guard, 200 honorable chamberlains, 14 officers of the Swiss Guard, 7 secret chaplains, 50 honorable chaplains, 20 secretaries, 10 intendants, 50 body servants, the Holy College of Cardinals, and the *Monsignori de Corte*, consisting of 140 persons, and ever so many Swiss soldiers, etc.

The National Grange.

The National Grange, in session at St. Louis, on the 11th inst., after the transaction of some minor business, received the report of the Committee on Resolutions, presented by Mr. Ward Low, of Florida, and adopted it unanimously. It is as follows:

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

"Profoundly impressed with the truth that the National Grange of the United States should definitely proclaim to the world its general objects, we hereby unanimously make this declaration of the purposes of the Patrons of Husbandry:

"*First*—United by the strong and faithful tie of agricultural interests, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of our order, our country and mankind.

"*Second*—We heartily indorse the motto: 'In Essentials, Unity; in Non-essentials, Liberty; in all things, charity.'

"*Third*—We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects: To develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves; to enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits; to foster mutual understanding and co-operation; to maintain inviolate our laws, and to emulate each other to labor to hasten the good time coming; to reduce our expenses, both individual and corporate; to buy less and produce more, in order to make our farms self-supporting; to diversify our crops, and crop no more than we can cultivate; to condense the weight of our exports, sell less in the bushel and more on the hoof and in the fleece; to systematize our work and calculate intelligently on the probabilities; to discontinue the credit system, the mortgage system, the fashion system and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy. We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, buying together, selling together, and, in general acting together for our mutual protection and advancement, as the occasion may require. We shall avoid litigation as much as possible by arbitration in the Grange. We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony, good will, and vital brotherhood among ourselves, and to make our Order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudice, all unhealthy rivalry and all selfish ambition. Faithful adherence to these principles will ensure our mental, moral, social and material advancement.

"*Fourth*—For our business interest we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers, into the most direct and friendly relations possible, hence we must dispense with a surplus of middle men, not that we are unfriendly to them, but we do not need them. Their surplus and their exactions diminish our profits. We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interest whatever; on the contrary, all our actions and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of the producers and consumers, but also for all other interests that had to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact. Hence we hold that Transportation Companies of every kind are necessary to our success; that their interests, are intimately connected with our interests, and harmonious action is mutually advantageous. Keeping in view the first sentence in our declaration of principles of action, that individual happiness depends upon general prosperity, we shall therefore advocate for every State the increase in every practicable way of all facilities for transportation, cheaply to the seaboard, or between home producers and the consumers of all the productions of our country. We adopt as our fixed purpose to open out the channels in Nature's great arteries, that the life-blood of commerce may flow freely. We are neither the enemies of Railroads, navigable and irrigating canals, nor of any corporations that will advance our industrial interests, nor of any laboring classes. In our noble order there is no communism, no agrarianism. We are opposed to such a spirit in the management of any corporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people and rob them of their just profits. We are not enemies to capital, but we oppose the tyranny of monopolies. We long to see the antagonism between capital and labor removed by common consent, and by an enlightened statesmanship worthy of the nineteenth century. We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest and exorbitant percentage of the profits in trade. They greatly increase our burdens, and do not bear a proper proportion to the profits of the producer. We desire only self-protection, and the protection of every true interest of our land, by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade, and legitimate profits. We shall advance the cause of education among ourselves and for our children, by all just means in our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges that practical agriculture, domestic science, and all the arts which adorn the home, may be taught in their courses of study.

"*Fifth*—We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange—National, State or subordinate—is not a political or party organization. No Grange if true to its obligations, can discuss political or religious questions, nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings; yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and if properly carried out will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country, for we seek the greatest good of the greatest number. But we must always bear in mind that no one by becoming a Grange member gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen to take a proper interest in the politics of his country; on the contrary, it is right for every member to do all in his power, legitimately, to influence for good the action of any political party to which he belongs. It is his duty to do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption or trickery; to see that none but competent, faithful and honest men who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests, are nominated for all positions of trust; and to have carried out the principles which should always characterize every Grange member, that the office should seek the man, and not the man the office. We acknowledge the broad principle that difference of opinion is no crime, and hold that progress towards truth is made by differences of opinion, while the fault lies in the bitterness of controversy. We desire a proper equality, equity and fairness, protection for the weak, proper restraint upon the strong, and, in short, justly distributed burdens and justly distributed power. These are American ideas, the very essence of American independence, and to advocate the contrary is unworthy the sons and daughters of an American Republic. We cherish the belief that sectionalism is and of right should be, dead and buried with the past. Our work is for the present and the future in our agricultural brotherhood and its purposes. We shall recognize no North, no South, no East, no West. It is reserved by every patron as his right to affiliate with any party that will best carry out his principles.

"*Sixth*.—Ours being peculiarly a farmers' institution, we cannot admit all to our ranks. Many are excluded by the nature of our organization, not because they are professional men, or artizans, or laborers, but because they have not a sufficient direct interest in tilling or pasturing the soil, or may have some interest in conflict with our purposes; but we appeal to all good citizens for their cordial co-operation to assist in our efforts towards reform, that we may eventually remove from our midst the last vestige of tyranny and corruption. We hail the general desire for fraternal harmony, equitable compromise, and earnest co-operation as an omen of our future success.

"*Seventh*.—It shall be an abiding principle with us to relieve any of our oppressed and suffering brotherhood by any means at our command.

"*Last, but not Least*.—We proclaim it among our purposes to inculcate a proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman as indicated by admitting her to membership and position in our Order. Imploring the continual assistance of our Divine Master to guide us in our works, we pledge ourselves to faithfully and harmoniously labor for all future time to return, by our united efforts, to the wisdom, justice, fraternity and political purity of our forefathers."

A memorial to the Patrons of Husbandry in the Cotton States was also presented and unanimously adopted. It is an argument in favor of mixed husbandry in the South, instead of expending the energies of the people in raising a single crop. It says that during the past seven years our cotton fields have added to the wealth of the world $2,000,000,000, and ensured prosperity to simile upon every one who has handled our crops, save those who struggled for its production annually. The energies of the cotton planters have been exhausted in attempting to produce a maximum crop of a single staple, whilst quite as frequently he has reduced his means in supplying his necessary wants. A system based upon such a policy and producing such results, must be radically wrong, and if persisted in will lead to bankruptcy and ruin. No people can ever become prosperous who are not self-sustaining. Our fertile soil, exhaustless mineral wealth, abundant water power, and genial, salubrious climate, will avail us nothing if annually we expend millions for subsistence. It is generally conceded that home-grown bread is cheaper than purchased supplies, and the observation of every planter is, that those southern farmers who live within themselves are more independent and less encumbered with debt than those who have relied on the cotton crop. It is hazardous for any people to rely upon others for a supply of those articles which are necessary for their daily consumption. It then referred to the famine, which more than once, has occurred in India, owing to the efforts of the people to grow cotton to the exclusion of breadstuffs, and adds: "During the past year, portions of Iowa, Minnesota and Dakota have been invaded by grasshoppers, which destroyed every vestige of vegetation. Imagine your condition, should similar invasions become general in the Northwest. Coupled with this idea, the total failure of a cotton crop, either from the worms, from drought, or any other unavoidable cause. Improbable as such visitations may appear, we have the power to prevent them, and is it wise to subject ourselves to the possibility of becoming the victims of such calamities. Our wisest and safest policy is, as far as practicable, to produce at home our necessary supplies. Is there a farm in the South upon which this cannot be done, and at the same time produce an average cotton crop? As the net result of the farmer's annuals, we believe there is not annually 4,000,000 of bales of cotton produced upon Southern soil, but what a proportion of this vast amount is returned. To indicate our prosperity, one-half of it is expended for necessary supplies, whilst the remainder is divided between labor and taxes; hence the cost of production has exceeded the value of the article produced. Shall the policy continue? Extensive cotton crops have evinced our unity of purpose and entailed poverty upon us, and an equally uniform adhesion to mixed husbandry would secure our recuperation. Cotton is a necessity, and the extent of that necessity can be calculated with exactness. If 3,500,000 bales are grown, they will be consumed before another crop can be gathered, and a remunerative market price will be sustained by the consequent demand; if 4,500,000 bales are grown, the large marginal excess will control the market. The alternatives for success are numerous; but we need to rely on the single one of co-operating in the determination to subsist at home. With this end attained, there is no reason why we should not be the happiest, most independent and prosperous people on the earth."

A resolution was adopted directing the Secretary of the National Grange to immediately certify the amendments to the Constitution adopted at this session, and send them to the Secretaries of all State Granges for ratification or rejection, and prescribing the manner in which State Granges shall act upon them. If two-thirds of the States ratify the amendments, the Secretary of the National Grange is then to complete the Constitution as amended, and it is to be printed under the supervision of the Executive Committee.

Col. Chamber offered the following, which was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the National Grange that the expression of interest in agricultural pursuits, in article five of the Constitution, means engaged in agricultural pursuits, and having no interest in a conflict with our purposes."

In the National Grange on the 13th, the committee having in charge the matter concerning the Boston Grange, reported to the following effect:

"That the Secretary of the National Grange be instructed to notify all State Granges within its jurisdiction that the Boston Grange is no longer connected with the Patrons of Husbandry, and henceforth, fraternally, recognition can not be extended to it by any Grange, State or subordinate; and the Master of the Massachusetts State Grange is hereby required to make a formal demand for the surrender of the dispensation and ritual of the Boston Grange; and when received, return to the said Grange the money paid for said dispensation and ritual, and return them without delay to the office of the Secretary of the National Grange at Washington."

The National Grange Committee to whom was referred the matter relating to the Boston Grange, in their report to the National Grange, after giving a history of the Boston Grange, used the following language:

"We find that the Massachusetts State Grange encouraged and sustained, by a resolution passed at a regular meeting, the Boston Grange in its acts of insubordination and resistance to lawful authority, and therefore have rendered themselves liable to censure, by a violation of their obligation to inculcate strict obedience to lawful edicts and proper authority. We find that the action of the Boston Grange in refusing to surrender its dispensation and submit quietly to the rulings of our head until the meeting of the National Grange, when they could have applied for redress by appeal from the action of Worthy master Adams, has been very demoralizing and injurious to the interests of our order throughout the West and South, and the good of the order imperatively demands that such insubordination and persistent resistance to authority must be checked. Without calling into question the integrity, moral worth or friendly feelings which the persons who formed the Boston Grange may have for the principles of success and prosperity of our order, we find that this Grange was not, and is not, composed of the material declared by our order to be eligible to membership. We find they have been derelict in not obeying the requirements of our Worthy Master when he demanded a surrender of the dispensation under which they were working; that they are still acting in defiance of the authority which commands them to stop, and by such insurbordination they have forfeited all right to be considered Patrons of Husbandry in good and regular standing." Then follows the recommendations which were telegraphed to the afternoon papers.

The report of the Committee on Transportation, after being presented and partially discussed, was withdrawn on the ground that it was too specific and not general enough in character, and the whole matter lies over until the next annual meeting.

The Grange then adjourned, to meet in Charleston, South Carolina, the first Wednesday of February next.

Hard indeed is the fate of that ruptured person who really believes in his ignorance that his affliction is incurable. The New Elastic Truss without Metal Springs, is worn with perfect ease night and day, retaining the rupture securely at all times till a permanent cure is effected. This New Truss is sent by mail everywhere by the Elastic Truss Co., No. 683 Broadway, N. Y. City, who furnish circulars free on application.

☞ They have a registry law in Wisconsin, which assures tolerable honesty in voting. The "Reformers," as the Democracy call themselves, have repealed it.

THE NEW WATER ROUTE.

We are intensely gratified at the cordial welcome given by the people and press of St. Louis, and, we may say, of the entire Southwest, to the project of a Canal from Toledo to St. Louis. It is a project which at once commends itself to the judgment of every man at all intelligent as to the necessities of our inter-State commerce. We are convinced by dear-bought experience that rail roads can not wholly meet the wants of the country. There will be ever work enough for the Railroads. But we need water channels for a trade that the Railroads cannot or will not perform except at charges which the agricultural and manufacturing interests of the great west cannot bear. The Farmer's Movement gives voice to the long-felt necessity for reduced rates of transportation from the marts of the west to the seaboard. The leading commercial men of the country, east and west, have long since felt this want, but the agriculturists and manufacturers did not second their appeals. Now there is a prospect of a concert of action between these great interests on this subject. To all objections on the score of cost we need only say we cannot afford to refuse compliance with this demand for cheap transportation. Nor can we afford long delay.

The St. Louis *Democrat* of the 10th inst., contains the following notice of the movement on behalf of this canal project, with a sketch of his history and present condition of the Wabash and Erie Canal:

There is a movement on foot for the construction of a canal from Toledo to St. Louis. A meeting was recently held in Toledo at which the project was discussed and approved, and the papers of that city, and those in Indiana along the line of the proposed canal, are giving a good deal of attention to the subject. Some thirty years ago the States of Indiana and Ohio united in the work of digging a canal from Toledo to Evansville. The latter State, which had then embarked upon a system of internal improvements, including several canal and turnpike enterprises, succeeded in negotiating a large loan from the Rothschilds and other European bankers, and issued several millions of improvement bonds therefor. The works were pushed forward, and we believe one canal boat passed through the canal its entire length, from Toledo to Evansville, but before the works were fully completed the panic of 1837 came on, and the State of Indiana made default in the payment of the interest on its improvement bonds. Hard times continued for six or seven years, no interest was paid, and finally the bondholders proposed that if the State would issue a new set of bonds for half the amount due, they would look to the canal for the other half, and in 1846-7 laws were passed carrying out the terms of such a compromise. The new issue of bonds was paid, but by reason of the railway development along the line of the canal, its business and tolls fell off, its dams and locks were suffered to decay, and its income was reduced so low that it ceased to be used for purposes of navigation. A recent effort was made to induce the State of Indiana to take back the canal and issue bonds for the amount of the unpaid improvement bonds, but an amendment has been made to the Constitution prohibiting such legislation. This leaves the canal a worthless, unproductive ditch, on the hands of the European bondholders. It is proposed now to extend the canal from Terre Haute to St. Louis. It is a work of comparatively easy accomplishment. The canal is already dug all the way from Lake Erie to Terre Haute, and a moderate expenditure will put it in navigable condition. The distance from St. Louis to Terre Haute is less 200 miles, and the character of the country between the two cities is such that the canal can be constructed with small expense and with few locks. We called attention to this subject some months ago, and now that the Toledo Board of Trade are agitating it, and resolving in favor of the undertaking, a little encouragement from this end of the line will help the cause greatly. The fact that the money kings of Europe already have a large unproductive investment in the canal will induce them to assist any effort that may be made to render their property valuable and productive.

A NEW THING AND A GOOD THING.—Marble and stone workers have experienced great difficulty in raising stone or marble pillars, or monuments to perpendicular position without breaking the corners of the work. JOHN G. SHERWOOD, Esq., of Bucyrus, Ohio, has invented and patented an apparatus which does this work in one-tenth the time of any other method and with no danger whatever of marring the finest work. Mr. S.'s apparatus is two pieces of strong plank lined with rubber, and connected with iron rods. The pieces are drawn together with the rods, the rubber clinging to the stone on the principal of the boy's "sucker," by which the mischievous imps raise bricks out of pavements. The shape of the monument make no difference with the working of the apparatus. A shaft tapering to the top is handled just as readily as any others. Marble cutters who have monuments to set up assert that the Hoister is invaluable. We have seen it work and can testify to its excellence. MR. JAS. ARMSTRONG, of the Armstrong Heater and Filter Company, Toledo Ohio is interested in the patent and will give all information concerning it. It is a good and useful invention

A Family Doctor.

The oldest medical practice is that of the family. Long before the doctors or even priests were intrusted with the care of the sick, the parent performed that office, and to this day, the first medicine is given by the head of the family. The father or mother first notices disease—the headache, chill, pain or cough that indicate the presence of the enemy, and they give the first medicine. To do this wisely and successfully, is to arrest the disease and save the patient. If unskillfully or at random you not only do not benefit, but injure. HUMPHREY'S HOMŒOPATHIC SPECIFICS are intended to meet this want. In each family case is a Book of Directions, which fully instructs the parent as to what the disease is, provide the remedy for it, and show how to give it. With such a simple case, costing but a few dollars, a family is provided for emergencies, and will save largely in sickness, suffering and expense.—*Exchange.*

CHILES' TONIC ELIXIR.—The most miserable beings in the world are those who suffer from dyspepsia, liver complaint, sour stomach, sick headache, habitual costiveness, heartburn, waterbrash, gnawing and burning pains in the stomach, yellow skin, coated tongue, disagreeable taste in the morning, low spirits and general debility. Chiles' Tonic Elixir never fails to cure all of the above diseases. Try this great remedy. Make your druggist get it for you or send to Dr. Edward Chiles, S. E. corner 8th and Fairmount ave., Philadelphia. Physicians or patients can send money with their orders, as the Doctor is an honorable and respectable chemist.

Scientific and Safe Treatment

When applied with Dr. Pierce's Nasal Douche and accompanied with Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery as constitutional treatment, Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy produces perfect cures of the worst cases of Catarrh and Ozena of many years' standing. This thorough course of medication constitutes the only scientific, rational, safe and successful manner of treating this odious disease that has ever been offered to the afflicted. So successful has it proven that the proprietor has long offered a standing reward of $500 for a case of Catarrh which he can not cure.

INDISPUTABLE EVIDENCE.

Thos. J. Bishop, of South Brooklyn, N. Y., writes that his wife had suffered since a child with Catarrh until it had resulted in what eminent physicians pronounced Consumption; that she has used Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy with Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and they have worked wonders with her case.

STEALING OUR THUNDER.

People should beware of those impostors who not only try to imitate Dr. Pierce's Family Medicines, but also copy his original story of advertising, by offering various sized rewards for cases of Catarrh and other diseases which they can not cure. Those who do not possess sufficient intelligence to enable them to write original advertisements of their own, but have to steal those of others, are not likely to have made great and valuable discoveries in Medicine. Look out for them.

The Nasby Letters.

Mr. Nasby Inaugurates a New Enterprise—The "Cross Roads Reformer and Friend uv Purity"—Letters from Distinguished Personages Endorsing the Paper.

CONFEDRIT X ROADS,
(Wich is in the State uv Kentucky,)
Feb. 17, 1874.

My little effort at reform in Ohio, didn't work jest ez I hed hoped, but I don't despare uv gittin suthin out uv it after all. Ef we can't make reform go, what is there for us? At the worst I perpose to make it earn me a livin. I am in the reform biznis, and I shel push it ez a biznis.

I hev determined to start a Reform noosepaper. That idee sprung full-fledged from my massive intelleck two weeks ago. When I determine upon a thing I go and do it,' and so, two weeks ago, I ishood the prospecktus, and with it the Massedonian cry for help to all the rich Dimocrats I knowd or cood heer uv.

I stated in my prospecktus (wich I wrote in Bascom's) that the "Cross Roads Reformer and Friend uv Purity" wood be devotid to reform in its broadest sense, public and privit. I deplored the wide-spred corrupshen that hed pervadid and permeated all depaatments uv the public servis, sence that gileless patriot, A. Johnson, vacated the Presidenshel cheer, ez well ez the laxity uv morals that pervadid all classes uv society, wich wuz the legitimit outgrowth uv Radikle idees. I hed throwd myself into the breach, and wuz determined to do all in my power to check the flood uv fraud that wuz sweepin over the land, and wich bid fair to rooin the Republik. To the coz uv purity and reform, I hed devotid all there wuz uv me.

I stated distinctly that the "Cross Roads Reformer and Friend uv Purity" hed but one panacea for all the evils the country is labrin under, namely, the bustin uv the Republikin party and the puttin in power uv the Dimocrisy. That is all there is uv it. This is the short road to politikle purity, and, by example, the promoter uv privit purity. We want to hev back in Congris that galaxy uv intellecks that shone so resplendently doorin Bookannon's Administrashen, and in the places uv trust and profit, the patriots who rallied so gloriously around the crib presidid over by A. Johnson. Some uv em are dead, alas! but there are enuff uv em left to fill all the offises, and there ain't any resk uv their declinin.

I sent an appeal for aid to various leadin Dimocrats uv the country, and receeved responses wich show that in this enterprise I hev hit the precise idea that is needed. For instance, Fernando Wood wrote me the follerin:

"I agree with yoo that the times demand a viggerous paper, wich shel oppose the corrupshens wich are sappin the very foundashens uv our liberties. The crimes uv the Republikin party cry to Heaven. Enclosed find cheque for $50. I wood send yoo more, but I heven't realized on my Credit Mobilier shares yet, and me and Brother Ben find the lottery bizness dull sence the panic struck us. Trooly,
FERNANDO WOOD.

His brother Ben. wrote as follows:

Enclosed find $50 to aid in establishin The Cross Roads Reformer and Friend uv Purity. I wish I cood spare more, for ef ever ther wuz a time when public and private purity needed boostin, this is the time. We must combine to crush Republikinism and inoggerate a rain uv purity. I wood send more, but the fact is policy sellin is dull, and faro-banks ain't more than payin expenses. But sich ez my donashen is, take it.
Trooly, BEN. WOOD.

That noble patriot John Morrisey wrote me thus:

I bid go you God speed in yoor noble enterprise. The time hez come for a viggerous war agin the corrupshen that is sappin the foundashuns uv Amerikin liberty. I can't send yoo eny more, for I hev hed a terrible run uv luck at two uv my faro banks, and the repeeters I hed to pay at the last eleckshun drained me, but I hev hed you appinted to an offis under the Sheriff uv Noo York, and will hev it arranged that yoor salary shel be sent yoo. Uv course you will hev to be here on eleckshun days to vote in sich precincks ez are assigned yoo. May yoor efforts at bringin our country up to its former standard uv virchoo be crowned with success.
Hopefully,
JOHN MORRISEY.

Boss Tweed wrote ez follows:

I write in bonds. But oppressed ez I am by crooel perseckooters I take a lively interest in evrything that looks to purity in offishel matters. In my lonely cell on Blackwell's Island do I groan for my country. I hev drected my son Richard to send yoo $50 to aid your paper jest as soon ez he kin collect it from the ongrateful contractors who refoozed to divide with me when I got into trouble, on contracks wich I give em when I wuz in power. But go on in yoor good work. Trooly, W. M. TWEED.

The letter I wrote to Barry Genet, wuz answered by a frend uv his, who remarked that Mr. Genet was abroad for his health, but that he shood forrerd it to him, and that Mr. G. wood doubtless contribbit, ez he wuz, ez he allus hed bin, a staunch friend of Reform.

From the South the responsis were encouragin, tho not profitable.

From every one uv the glorious soljers uv the Confederacy come words uv cheer. They bid me go on and deel heavy blows agin the monster Radicleism, and in support, not only uv Reform, but uv our common country. Four yeers more uv Radicle rool wood be suffishent, they wuz every one uv em convinst, to destroy the Government bequeathed us by our fathers, and wich hed bin made sacred by their blood.

Aleck Stephen wrote me a letter approvin uv the design uv the paper that kivered sixty-eight pages of foolscap, but he didn't enclose a dollar, wich wuz a lame and impotent concloosion.

One man from Alabama insisted that the motto uv the noo paper shood be, "Offisis in rite hands and purity in Offis." The offisis, he went on to remark, cood never be in rite hands so long ez a disgustin nigger wuz Postmaster in Napoleonville, a place wich he wunst okkepied under Johnson. He beleeved in non-partizanism, and the President ought to re-assure the people by showin em that he wuz not influenced by partizan feelins. Let the President remove his appintees and put Dimocrats in their places. When he wuz removed and that nigger wuz put in his place, he, for the first time in his life, despaired uv the Republic.

I wuz astonished at the number uv responses I got from Republikins. They cum in by the bushel. Every one one uv em hed lost all faith in a Republikin form uv Government—every one uv em bleeved that the Government hed fallen into bad hands, and consekently they despared uv the Republic. One pekoolyarity uv this despare wuz, they all specified the date at wich they commenced desparin, ez for instance:

"On the 13th uv Jooly, 1873, I felt that all wuz gone."

Or this:

"On the 23d uv August, 1872, I felt that the sun uv Republikinism hed set forever, onless a change cood be made."

I wuz at some pains to assertane why things went to rooin on them pertikeler days, and I found that it wuz Jooly 13, 1873, that the first hed bin defected for renomenashin to Congress, and that on the 23d uv August, 1872, the second hed bin removed from a Collectorship, and the others wuz in the same state uv health without excepshin. But it don't do to inquire too pertikerlerly. They beleeve the Government is in bad hands and that is enuff for me. These men—and all uv this class, demand reform, but they didn't enclose no material aid. How do they spose the battle agin a corrupt Administrashen is to be fought, ef they don't furnish ammunishen

I got in donashens (and loans, wich is the same thing) about $800. The paper will be ishood next week. I hev paid Bascom $40, and Deekin Pogram $25, on akkount, wich hez encouraged them.

Things looks brighter for me. May my sky continyoo unclouded.

PETROLEUM V. NASBY,
Editor Cross Roads Reformer.

Correspondence.

WASHINGTON LETTERS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6, 1874.

Mr. Sunset Cox, who came back to Congress from his New York constituency, in place of Mr. Brooks, to be the leader of the free trade Democracy, finds the department of natural history more attractive than political economy. His dissertation in the House on moths and other kindred insects was a decided success. The members gathered close around him in large numbers, and the House was so convulsed with laughter as to put all ideas of order at defiance. Mr. Field, of Michigan, who wears a suit of calico or something of kindred hues, as variegated as Joseph's coat of many colors, maintained his position at a respectful distance, and called loudly to the Chair, from his distant corner, to preserve order: whereupon Mr. Cox increased the uproar by exclaiming: "Let my friend of the *elegant toilet* come this way!"

The "elegant toilet" did not move, but everybody else was moved, and the House was in a roar at his expense. The particular thing which excited Cox's organ of fun was a large appropriation in the army bill to protect army clothing against moths. He didn't believe in keeping these old clo', and, casting his eyes upward into the gallery where the colored persuasion mostly do congregate, he said: Give them to those patriots, and let them be uniformed, since they are so uniformly here, and then Solomon in all his glory will not be arrayed like one of these. His parallel between the moth and the politician was particularly rich, and his replies, when interrupted, always brought down the House. For instance, Mr. Platt, from the Norfolk (Va.) district, inquired how it was in case one of these moths died. Did another crawl in to take his place? Cox quickly replied: "That depends whether he lives in a Navy Yard district." "Navy Yard" was good, and the House roared over it afresh. But Cox's replies to Field, who every once in a while called out from his corner for order, were sure to produce a storm of mirth, and there was a lively time for some twenty minutes, till the champion of free trade and natural history subsided.

Mr. Carpenter has put in his bill for a new election in Louisiana, but the prospect of its passage is not good. Common sense is against it, the best men in the State are against it, and the President is against it. There is no question that Mr. Carpenter's speech was very searching and able, and that it made a strong case; but the outrages of the election were so general on both sides that the action of the courts seemed to be the only reliable guide, and it could not be known how greatly they strained their authority. But whatever the wrongs, now that tranquility is restored, and a good government is in actual operation, another break-up would be ruin indeed. The powerful reply of Mr. Morton has left a strong impression on the Senate, and I doubt if Mr. Carpenter's bill receives a respectable support. The Democrats are stopped on the ground that it is an open interference with State rights.

The President has appointed General Humphrey, Professor Pierce (of Mass.,) and Commodore Amman Commissioners (Canal Commissioners) to examine the surveys and routes for the Isthmus Ship Canal, and report to him, with any suggestions or conclusions which they deem appropriate. The next generation will probably see ships making a short cut between the two oceans.

Another attempt is to be made to equalize the bounties of soldiers. The bill reported is the same as that which has been for several sessions before Congress. It gives all soldiers 8⅓ dollars per month for the time of service, and deducts all payments on account of bounty already made. The prospect for its passage, in the crippled state of the public purse, is not as good as we could wish.

The bill for a special examination into the affairs of the District, gives to the Senate three members of the Joint Committee, and Messrs Frelinghuysen, Boutwell and Thurman, were appointed; but Mr. Frelinghuysen wished to be excused and was excused. Mr. Conkling was then appointed, but the death of his father made him also put in a claim to be excused on the ground that he is obliged to be absent. He was accordingly excused, and Morrill, of Me., appointed; but Mr. Morrill also begs to be excused, and yesterday Mr. Sherman proposed that the examination by joint committee be abandoned. No further action was taken.

Dr. Nichols, of our Lunatic Asylum, had a favorite bull of the Alderny breed, but as he was somewhat unruly, he desired to put a ring in his snout for more convenient handling. But the bull objected so decidedly that the doctor was posed, but his chloroform occurred to him, and he immediately sent for the article and applied it to the nose of the strong animal, whose weight was 2,250 lbs. In a brief space of time, his huge proportions settled to the ground and the doctor triumphantly exclaimed: "See what Science can do!" But it turned out that science had done a little too much; for the bull never recovered his feet again, but went straight to the place where all good animals go. I should say, perhaps, that the Asylum is conspicuously located on the river over against the navy yard, south of the city.

The Senate is still at work on the bankrupt bill, with a prospect that the proposed amendments will be adopted and the repeal measure of the House discarded.

Yesterday was private bill day in the House, and the proceedings are of no general interest. To-day the Senate does not sit, and the House comes together for speeches only.

Gen. Butler, who has been talking about building a house in Washington for some years, has finally come to a decision, and will soon occupy the new and very elegant residence which he is now building on New Jersey avenue, not far from the Capitol. The position which he has chosen is high, and commands an extensive view of the city, and the house and out-buildings, including ample stable room, are among the most commodious in the city.

A storm yesterday and last night has covered the ground with about four inches of "beautiful snow," and the clouds are still ashy and apparently prepared with a further supply.

BUCKEYE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9, 1874.

The hot controversy which is going on here in regard to District officers, has not only attracted the attention of Congress, but has taken to itself wings through the agency of Newspaper Row, and has gone off to the country, colored by the interests or prejudices of correspondents, and Washington has become as regular a theme for newspaper disquisition as the currency or the tariff.

I do not suppose that our affairs have been managed in the best possible way, or that we have got as much for the money expended as we might have had; but it is wonderful that a body with such vast powers as our Board of Public Works, and which went forward turning and overturning with such an arbitrary sway, should be so generally sustained by the press and the people, and that the opposition should be mostly confined to a handful of fogies who would be satisfied that nothing that did not restore slavery and the old rule of the "first families."

The revolution in the affairs of this city has been wrought in about two years, during which time, more has been done than was ever done before in any city of the world in the same time. The war left us with no street paved or graded; with a filthy canal stretching through the city from east to west, which was the receptacle of dead animals and refuse dirt; with no system of sewerage; with no trees on the streets; and with a surface which was a monsoon of dust in summer and a bottomless muck of mud in winter. Every body that came to Washington abused it, and it deserved all the abuse that it received. Whoever was here at Lincoln's second inauguration, will need no proof to substantiate this strong statement.

The Board of Public Works, under the dominant will and great organizing power of Gov. Shepherd, has enlisted the interests of Congress, raised large sums of money, projected and carried forward a vast system of improvements, and completely redeemed Washington from the niggardly misrule of the old days of slavery; presenting it to its future occupants in a condition worthy of the great name that it bears, and the great object for which it was founded.

In a paper before me is a dry statistical statement of what has been done, and is in progress, and some of the items are sufficiently startling. For instance, there have been set 154 miles of curbing, and the roadways and walks that have been paved cover more than three and a half millions of square yards, or a length of 365 miles. The grading has required the excavation of more than three and a quarter millions of square yards of earth, and the streets that have been planked, allowing the width of the plank to be eighteen feet, show a length of 55 miles. The small sewers constructed would measure 60 miles, and the six inch lateral pipes nearly as many more. The larger sewers, with arches which span from six to thirty feet, built of brick or stone, have a length of four miles; the barrel sewers, ranging from two to seven feet, a length of five miles, and all the sewers together a length of 130 miles.

But the "oldest inhabitants" have not been at all happy while this mammoth work has been in progress, and two of the most wealthy of them, Mr. Corcoran and Mr. Riggs, refuse to pay their taxes, and are interposing all manner of obstructions, the object of which is to embarrass the finances of the Board and prevent Congress from paying for those portions of the work adjacent to its buildings and grounds. Of course they have their grievances, and it may be that the investigation which they have induced Congress to set on foot will show that they have good cause for their conduct. But the popular idea is that these obstructions are malicious, and that they really have no ground for the turmoil which they are fomenting. Mr. Corcoran was a large stockholder in the unsuccessful Democrat organ of this city, which expired a year or two ago, was in sympathy with the rebellion during the war, and probably has no very warm side for the administration of President Grant. He has made some munificent gifts to the city which have procured him many complimentary notices from the press, but have not obliterated his unpatriotic record.

The President will announce to-day or to-morrow the military court which is to investigate the charges against General Howard. It is understood that the officers designated are as follows: Generals Sherman, Sheridan, McDowell, Pope and Meigs. Of course it cannot be known what are the facts to come before the court, but there is no change in public sentiment here in regard to the accused; and the confidence of the public in his honor and integrity is unshaken.

The graduates of Yale College now in the city had a meeting last week, and mustered between 30 and 40 strong. The object of the meeting was to claim social fraternity with Chief Justice Waite; and they will probably offer some public recognition on his arrival in this official city. As he took out his papers from the academy in the city of elms, he will naturally fraternize with these children of the old mother.

The ice here is two or three inches thick, the snow four inches deep, and what sleighs there are on the market command a "big" price. BUCKEYE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11, 1874.

The adoption by the House of Mr. Smith's resolution in regard to inter-State commerce, is the most important action, thus far, of that body; and there is little doubt that the Senate, if it ever reaches a vote, will be equally emphatic. The high-handed and overbearing oppression of some of our railroads has helped Congress to discover this long unused power in the constitution; and now that it is found the Granger movement will insure its being called into immediate use.

Mr. Smith's resolution, after reciting the constitutional provision that Congress shall have power "to regulate commerce with foreign nations and between the several States," goes on to affirm that this is a high duty, which is laid upon Congress, requiring such a regulation of inter-State commerce as shall free it from oppressive tolls, unjust taxes, and all needless obstructions, whether by Railroad Companies or other common carriers, and that the present condition and magnitude of the States demand the prompt and wise exercise of the power thus granted.

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 170 against 64—that is to say, considerably more than a two-thirds vote.

Currency questions do not come to a head in either House. Yesterday Mr. Randall, of Penn., undertook to declare the policy of making any increase of circulation which Congress might order, on the greenback issue instead of bank notes; but the interest of the House in his motion was shown by an immediate adjournment, which was carried—117 to 91. In the Senate Mr. Boutwell introduced a bill making it unlawful for banks (National Banks) to pay for the deposits of other banks. But the boldest scheme in finance yet put forward, is that of Wendell Phillips. It is as visionary and as wildly theoretic as some of his startling platform propositions. Meantime Congress continues to talk and to let "well enough alone."

The bankruptcy bill, after having been long on the anvil in the Senate and getting various amendments welded to it, passed yesterday by a strong vote—40 to 11. The House repealed the bill—the Senate has amended it, and proposes to give it a further trial.

In the House Mr. Dawes' proposition to fix the final adjournment for the 15th of May, started a lively discussion, in which Mr. Beck charged that the object was to force back the revenue and tariff bills. The motion of Mr. Dawes was finally referred, and Mr. Coburn moved it to be the sense of the House not to adjourn till some measure of reform in the currency was adopted, some action was had to secure cheap transportation, and some further steps taken to bring about a more economical administration of the government. This resolution was adopted, of course.

The Senate has finally found a committee on District affairs that will stick. As now settled it consists of Boutwell, Thurman and Alison. Mr. Boutwell will be chairman of the joint committee.

Gen. Butler, in his personal explanation yesterday, said that the large newspaper proprietors should know that their agents here were not telling the truth. "He had no language with which to characterize the lies that were told in these journals." Mr. Smith, the Indian Commissioner, will sympathize with Mr. Butler in this. He got in the clutches of the newspapers a few months ago, and the result was that he had to be investigated. The examination has been long and wearisome, but the newspapers have come out second best. The Commissioners made their report yesterday, and it concludes as follows:

"We deem it but an act of sheer justice to the accused to announce the unanimous opinion of the Commission, to-wit: That we are not only satisfied that in regard to the matters alleged in these charges he has been guilty of no wrong, but that, on the contrary, the testimony shows that in all things connected therewith he has been actuated by the purest motives and most commendable zeal for the promotion of the welfare of the Indians."

A resolution was adopted by the House yesterday, on the motion of Mr. Beck, of Ky., for the investigation of the First National Bank, of which Henry D. Cook was President, and which failed, in consequence of a loan to pay Jay Cook & Co., larger than was permitted by its charter on the general banking law, under which it was doing business. The bank violated its charter, but the fact would not have been known but for its failure.

Mr. Buckner's motion the other day, calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for a statement, showing what members of the present Congress were share holders in National banks, and to what amount, did not get passed, for the simple reason that it could not get before the House without a suspension of the rules, and such suspension requires a two-thirds vote. The motion to suspend received 147 votes against 97; but it required 162 I find Mr. Sherwood's name among those who voted to suspend.—Probably the matter will come up again.

Our snow, which fell on Friday (this is Wednesday,) remains on the ground, and the weather is moderately cold, but very clear and pleasant. The sleighing has been excellent ever since the storm, and the rare pleasure of sleigh-riding is invoked by pretty much everybody that can afford it, or that has the needful turn out. I notice, too, that the ice carts carry ice about three inches thick.

Liability for Bonds.

At Chicago, Feb. 12th, in the United States Circuit Court Judge Drummond overruled the demurrer to the replications in the Warren county bond cases. The suits are of public interest, not only on account of the amount involved, but as presenting a new phase of the liability of towns and counties on their bonds issued in aid of the building of railroads. The arguments were very elaborate, ex-Chief Justice Lawrence and Mr. Harding appearing for the county of Warren, and Judge J. G. Wilson and E. B. McCagg, Esq., for the bondholders. The cases involve the legality of $20,000 in bonds of the county of Warren in aid of the Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis Railroad.

Before the bonds were issued, certain tax-payers filed a bill in chancery in the Circuit Court of that county to enjoin the Board of Supervisors from issuing the bonds, alleging that no sufficient notice of the election at which the bonds were voted had been given, and that the county officers had acted collusively with the Railroad Company in issuing the bonds. Upon a hearing, the injunction was dissolved by the the Circuit Court on January 23d, 1871. Two days after the bonds were issued and registered in the State Auditor's office, and were subsequently put on market and sold after the dissolution, the injunction and issue of the bonds, the complainants appealed to the Supreme Court of the State, where the decree of their Circuit Court was reversed and the bonds declared to be unauthorized and void.

Thereupon, the tax-payers filed a second bill, making as new parties, the defendant, the unknown owners of the bonds, and asking for a like decree as in the first Chancery suit, which the second bill is still pending. The Portsmouth Savings Bank of New Hampshire and Augustus T. Post, of New York, having purchased the bonds in question, in open market, without any actual notice of the pendency of the Chancery proceedings in the State Courts, commenced the present suits for the recovery of unpaid interest on coupons, in July last. The Court pleads the adjudication of the State Supreme Court, declaring the bonds invalid in the bar, and insists that the pendency of the chancery proceedings was notice to the purchasers of bonds. To those he (Plaintiff) filed replications, setting up that they are bona fide purchasers for value and that they had no actual notice of pendency of chancery suits, nor any notice of the bonds were invalid. The county demurred to the replications, claiming that the pendency of the suit was notice. It is this demurrer which Judge Drummond overruled holding that the doctrine of lispenders does not apply to commercial paper, and also in effect reaffirming the principle that whenever there is a statute authorizing a municipality to issue bonds, and it does issue them, they are not liable to be impeached in the hands of a bona fide purchaser. The above ruling was in pursuance of the case of Olcott vs. the Supervisors of Fond Du Lac county, in 16 Wallace. In that case the question of lispenders was involved, but the Supreme Court of the United States, on affirming the validity of the bonds did not refer to this question in any manner. Judge Drummond, on this point, is understood to have differed from the rulings above referred to, but felt bound to follow its decision.

The present case will shortly be tried on the facts, and the defendants will be allowed to bring up this disputed point on the motion for a new trial.

Episcopal Convention.

The Episcopal Convention re-assembled at Milwaukee on the 12th, at 9 a. m. Most of the forenoon was occupied in discussing the charges made against Dr. DeKoren by the Nashotah Professors, and especially the pamphlet by Dr. Eager, of Nashotah, entitled "Principles, not Men," and which was aimed at the principles of Dr. DeKoren. A firebrand was thrown into the Convention in the shape of a document signed by four young students at Nashotah, declaring that Dr. Eager had stated that the pamphlet was written for political effect.

To end the discussion and personalities which bid fair to prolong the Convention for several days, Hon. Moses M. Strong moved that the debate terminate at 9 p. m., and the business of electing a Bishop be proceeded with.

Dr. DeKoren here rose and asked the privilege of the floor, the last hour between 8 and 9 P. M., to define his position. This was objected to on the ground that it would be unfair to the Hoffman party, to proceed to the election of Bishop under the spell of the Professor's eloquence. Dr. DeKoren declined making any statement under any other conditions.

Pending the argument on this point, the Convention adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

The faction opposing the extreme Ritualists, or Dr. DeKoren's party, are Conservatives, not Cummingsites. There are said to be only a few of the Cummings party in this diocese. The excitement runs very high, and each step is hotly contested with very bitter feeling on both sides.

This evening the clergy nominated Dr. DeKoren on the fourth ballot. The laymen refused to confirm this nomination by a vote of three neys to 16 ayes. A new man will be put in the field.

At 12:30 the Convention adjourned sine die, without electing a Bishop. The election will take place at the next annual meeting of the Diocese, in June.

Connecticut Politics.

The Republican Convention met at Hartford, Conn., on the 11th, and nominated Henry B. Harrison for Governor, and John T. Wait for Lieutenant-Governor. John O'A. Stone, editor of the Winham County Transcript, was nominated for Secretary of State; Hon. David O. Nichols, Treasurer of State, and Col. E. P. Packer, Comptroller.

Resolutions were adopted declaring that States should be left to regulate their own internal affairs, endorsing the course of the National Administration in reference to the recent election in Texas, opposing any further increase in paper currency, favoring the early resumption of specie payments and equal taxation; denouncing land grants to monopolies; demanding a prompt punishment of dishonest officials, and strict economy in the National and State Governments; favoring the formation of a bureau for the purpose of obtaining statistics and information relative to the condition of the laboring classes, upon which to base proper legislation, and submitting the question of a revision of the State Constitution to the people.

A telegram was received from Mr. Harrison accepting the nomination for Governor, and the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

BANK ROBBERS.

History of the Plundering of the Conneautville (Pa.) National Bank

[Pittsburg Correspondence of the New York Herald, Feb. 3.]

The following additional particulars of the daring bank robbery at Conneautville have been obtained from a gentleman who arrived here from that place this afternoon. The First National Bank of Conneautville is located on the corner of a brick block, known as Powers' block, the banking apartment being in front and the directors' room immediately back of it. On the night of the robbery, D. D. Williams, the Cashier, was engaged in the Directors' room making out his monthly report to the Comptroller of the United States Treasury, to be placed in the morning mail. Suddenly he heard a rap at the door, which is inside the one leading from a hall separating Messrs. Powers' store from the bank, and to get into this apartment the robbers must have passed up through the hallway, unlocking the door, thence down the back stairs to the door of the directors' room. This, of course, disarmed all suspicion in the mind of the cashier, and, thinking it might be a clerk of the bank, hurried to the door and swung it open. He was immediately seized by three men who wore black masks and slouched hats, and overpowered, and before he could cry out an alarm a gag was inserted in his mouth. This was a short piece of hickory wood, about an inch in diameter, with a notch carefully cut in each end to prevent the stout twine from slipping off. The ends of the twine were then brought back behind his neck and securely fastened, and the unfortunate man was just able to gasp for breath, and no more.

The heartless villains then took his wrists, which they tied together, and secured by passing them between his legs, where a piece of broomstick was passed through the twine underneath the knees. He was a silent bundle now, and the robbers, who had never uttered a word since entering the institution, took him into the banking room, where they deposited him in one corner, behind a desk. The vault and burglar-proof safe were already open, and the burglars set about their work with the coolness and deliberation of veteran craftsmen. The safes were both ransacked, and the money to the amount of $14 000 was carried off, also $30,000 worth of bonds in a tin box, belonging to special depositors. After concealing the valuables about their persons, they again examined the fastings of the Cashier, and then silently withdrew, and up to this time have not been apprehended.

Williams, the Cashier, remained the whole night in the bank, and was found the following morning by the president of that institution, W. E. Roberts. The poor fellow suffered intensely through the night, and was unconscious when discovered. He moaned feebly after the ropes and gag had been removed, but remained in a stupor for some hours after his release. He cannot give any other description of the men than that they were of the average height, wore dark clothes, masks and slouched hats. They had nothing to say but went about their work systematically, showing that everything had been arranged beforehand.

The bank offers a reward of $2,500 for the apprehension of the robbers.

"I CAN'T jine the grange." "I am sorry," was the reply; "we had counted on you." "No, I can't jine," said the voter, "because they've let the women in, and they'd werk it round so as to get to vote d'rec'ly, and I won't have nuthin' to do with it. The women is gettin' above their privileges, any way. They don't stay at home enough now, as St. Paul commanded, and I tell you I won't have nuthin' to do with granges."—*An Oregon Farmer*.

At a party, while a young lady was playing with a peculiar briliancy of touch, a bystander bachelor exclaimed: "I'd give the world for those fingers!" "Perhaps you might have the whole hand by asking," said the young lady's observant mother.

CHANG AND ENG.

They came from far Siam to dwell
Beneath our tamer sun,
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Two hearts that beat as one."

Now to a common grave their bones
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Who were so pleasant in their lives,
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MIAMI & ERIE CANAL.

From Superintendent Long we are informed that the three new wooden locks being built at Defiance will be completed by the first day of March, and that all repairs will be fully completed on the northern division of this Canal by the 10th of March.

Shippers and parties interested in our Canal navigation will thus have the advantages of an unusually early resumption of business between our city and Cincinnati.

The managers of our Canal are entitled to credit for the energy displayed in carrying forward their winter repairs whereby they will be able to open Canal navigation at an earlier day than usual.

Lake navigation will, no doubt, owing to the open winter, just about to close, be fully resumed by the 1st of April, and thus all property coming in by Canal will be forwarded without delay.

TOLEDO IN COLUMBUS.

The Columbus correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, describes two of our Representatives as follows:

PONDEROUS POTTER.

Altogether the most ponderous person in the Senate is Potter, of Toledo. Judge Potter, I believe they call him. He does everything ponderously, walks ponderously, presides as President *pro tem.* of the Senate ponderously, and makes speeches that surprise one by their ponderosity of utterance and the fallacy of his propositions. As a figure head in the chair of presiding officer he is prodigiously ponderous. Indeed, he has a majestic appearance up there with his mouth shut. With his great figure at the prow, the ship of State moves ponderously, and the little junk keeps out of the way. But on the floor the figure-head is not a success. To-day he engaged in a discussion of some preliminary question relating to the pending contest between Weimar and Welsh, as to which was elected by the people of the State to serve in the Treasurer's office. With ponderous utterance the figure-head declared that this question was one to be considered as altogether a private affair of two men, either of whom could fill the office well enough. He scouted the idea—or would have scouted it, only scouting is not a ponderous proceeding—that the people of the State had any interest in the case, or any rights to be vindicated, in the decision of the Senate. It was not a question with Potter whether the four hundred and forty thousand voters, more or less, who were at the pains to go to the polls last October and there seek to

"Execute a freeman's will,
As lightning does the will of God."

should have the will of the majority respected—nay, whether the will of the entire people as expressed in that feature of their fundamental law, which declares their will to be that the majority shall rule, should be enforced; but it was simply a question of private concern between Weimar and Welch. You are prodigiously powerful, but not persuasive, Potter.

TWO THOMPSONS.

* * * * Placed in contrast, the Toledo Thompson is a little on the sunny side of sixty, and the Dayton Thompson a little on the shady side. By the way, though they represent cities, neither of them lives in the city he represents. Thompson of the Miami is a Democrat; Thompson of the Maumee is a Republican. Thompson of the Miami wears a face deep furrowed as his own broad acres. The lines of care have been lightly drawn on the front of Thompson of the Maumee. Thompson of the Miami belongs to the fossiliferous period of American history, glorious as being one of the Old Jackson Guard, now, as he says, ordered to the front in time of great public need, perhaps of danger. Thompson, of the Maumee, keeps progress with events, and takes a hopeful view of the situation.

In speaking on any question before the House, Thompson, of the Miami, is grave and severe; Thompson, of the Maumee, lively and generous. The former says, with emphatic severity: "We are servants of the people. We have great responsibilities. We must stay the tide of extravagance. We must show that we know what we are about. There was a crisis, and the people have ordered out the old Jackson Guard, with William Allen at their head."

The latter strikes out with his face burning all over with the play of the serious, the ludicrous and the mischievous upon it in about equal sorces, something like this: "Come, now, let us quit acting like boys. Let us be men. If we've any work to do, let us do it and go home. If haven't any work to do, let us adjourn and go home." Thompson, of Montgomery, has a sense of humor concealed below the deep furrows which mark his physiognomy. Thompson, of Lucas, bubbles over with fun and humor, marked in the twinkle of his eyes and in every line of his face, the color of which comes not from the inebriating fluid extracted from the product of his own rich bottoms on the Maumee, but is rather the coursing of something like perpetual youthfulness in his veins.

At heart, I believe, the Montgomery Thompson relishes fun as well as his Lucas county namesake, but he has studied the dark side of events through the last fifteen or fifty years, and the other Thompson has been with the winning party and enjoyed himself. I suspect both of the Thompsons are Grangers. They both have creeds with honesty at the bottom. Both regard legislation from a hard, practical stand-point, and each in his way gives expression to the common-sense views of the large class whose industry more than all others supports alike our private and our public institutions—a class, however, that for reasons for which its members are largely responsible, has far less influence in the practical workings of government, either here or in Washington, than it is entitled to. I should say of the effects of their party ties and political associations, that Thompson, of the Miami, wears his as shackles that impede all freedom of action; while Thompson, of Lucas, wears his as a flexible armor against violent assaults.

☞ We regret to learn of the death of Hon. R. C. Hurd, of Mt. Vernon, the father of our fellow-citizen, Hon. Frank H. Hurd. He was an able lawyer, an upright Judge, and a public spirited citizen. His death will make a void in Mt. Vernon which could be made by the departure of few other men. He was, at time of his death, President of the Cleveland, Mt. Vernon & Columbus Railroad, to the affairs of which, he had of late given exclusive attention. His funeral will take place on Monday next.

☞ The Cincinnati *Enquirer* talks in a most insulting way of the "agricultural gentlemen" of the Ohio Legislature. That metropolitan journal makes free to say that such members "would have nothing to do at home during the winter solstice, save to slop the hogs and toast their shins. They would like to see the session drawn out until the birds begin to carol, and the angle-worm, by its tendency to rise and shine and go forth, admonishes them that he, who by the plow would thrive, must either hold or keep a watchful eye on the hired man."

If the *Enquirer* would observe the votes of the General Assembly, it would discover the farmers, as a class, more anxious to get away early from Columbus than any other class of men there. They do less talking, more steady, intelligent voting, besides wasting less time at gaming tables, and miscellaneous idleness, than their calumniators. A more contemptuous insult than the above could hardly be given by a journal of any pretensions than the *Enquirer* offers to the farmers.

☞ The Democratic majority in the Legislature have resolved to attempt a change of the Congressional apportionment of Ohio. That is a dangerous, as well as an audacious little game, gentlemen. Remember the adage about children playing with edged tools. It may be well also for the Democrats to examine the figures of the last election to see how many districts they could gain, or how much they can make by a change. Besides, the present Congress is very decidedly Republican and has a supervisory power in regard to Congressional elections which it may not be salutary to invoke to restrain the wrongs which a few desperate politicians may use their temporary accession to power to perpetrate. We shall have occasion to say more on this subject.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

Cheap Transportation Through a National Canal.

EDITOR BLADE:—Why has the Wabash & Erie Canal been overlooked as being one of the most feasible and best routes for a national canal, running as it does through one of the richest and best producing countries in the world, on a direct air line from St. Louis, through Toledo and out through the great National Channel, the St. Lawrence and Europe, or by another outlet running through Lake Champlain to New York City? Here is a route, which, by a comparatively small expense can be made the natural highway for all products raised through the grain growing States. The Wabash & Erie Canal, now in successful operation from the western extremity of Lake Erie to Terre Haute, Ind., a distance of 250 miles, and a further extension of 160 miles would extend to the Mississippi River, opposite St. Louis, whereby the immense crops of the great West could be cheaply and expeditiously moved to tide water.

This canal should be enlarged to such a capacity that steam tugs could be employed to tow barges carrying 600 tons and be moved at the rate of 75 miles in 25 hours. Each boat moving along at the rate of three miles an hour with a cargo equal to two ordinary freight cars. The entire expense of this great water route could be paid by the additional enhanced value of the lands of only $2 per acre for only 10 miles each side of the canal. The lands of the three States would be increased in value for 100 miles each side. At 10 miles, each mile would have 12,800 acres, at $2 per acre would amount to $25,600, and for 400 miles would amount to $10,240,000, which would pay one half the entire cost of the canal, and it is estimated that the revenue for 20 years would, pay the entire cost of the canal.

X.

ARREST OF HON. RUSH R. SLOANE.

He is Arrested in Sandusky on Charges of Embezzlement.

Some time since Hon. Rush R. Sloane was removed from the Presidency of the Cincinnati, Sandusky & Cleveland Railway. Friday as he stepped off the morning train from the East, at Sandusky he was arrested by Officer Berrigan upon and by virtue of a warrant issued by the Mayor, on seventeen distinct charges of embezzlement, sworn to by the officers of the Railway Company. Bail was fixed at $46,000 which was given, and he was released, to appear on Tuesday next. It is reported that other charges, of a more serious nature, are to be preferred against him by the Company. There have been several civil suits entered against him, and his property in this city, Sandusky, Chicago and Boston has been attached. The total claim of the Company, including suits already commenced, will aggregate over $300,000. It is rumored that a special grand jury will be called, and the case called to the immediate attention of the Common Pleas Court. The affair creates great excitement in Sandusky, and other places where he is well known.

TOLEDO AND DETROIT.

The Advantages of the Former—Hon. James F. Joy upon the Situation—The "Corn City" Bound to Secure the Business—"A Bridge! a Bridge! My Kingdom, &c."

The Hon. James F. Joy, President of the Michigan Central Railway, confesses his disappointment at the report made by the Board of U. S. Engineers, concerning the bridging of Detroit River, in a letter to the *Free Press*.

After demonstrating how vitally important its construction is, to the interests of both Detroit and the State of Michigan, he says regarding the dangers: They are not imaginary or slight.

GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION.

It is situated about half way between the foot of Lake Huron and Toledo. At the former place the river is narrow and always open. At the latter place Lake Erie is turned without impediment. At all times, therefore, the passage way is open north and south of us at a distance of about sixty miles. At this place there is often no passage, and for several months in the year it is all the time difficult, and even in summer is a serious obstruction to the passage of railroad business.

EXAMPLES IN POINT.

The consequence of this state of things is already very apparent. They have developed much more rapidly in the direction of Toledo and around the south shore because that way there is not even the obstructions of even an ever open and narrow, river as at at Port Huron. At that point, therefore, with the additional advantage of a good harbor, and at the end of the lake, has sprung up an active and thriving city. The easy passage around the lake there, the easy connection with the southwest by rail from that point, the easy and close connection with the whole State of Michigan there, which has grown up for the reason that their business may go East by water or by rail at all times with equal facility and without obstructions, is fast building up there a populous city, one destined at no distant day, with its present superior advantages, if they can be maintained, and if the advantages of Detroit cannot be increased, to take a place among the great cities of the great West.

A COMPARISON.

Let the people of this city consider what it has gained as against them already. It has acquired a short connection with the Saginaw Valley by means of a direct road running down almost through the suburbs of Detroit. It is in the Saginaw cities and along the roads running north and west from them an active competition for the trade and business of the whole northern portion of the state. It has its railroad running up to Jackson, draining into its lap the riches of all the country between Toledo and a point seventy-five miles directly north of this city. It has a road a little further west, running north through Albion to Lansing, northwest of this city only 80 miles, and draining that country towards Toledo. It has, a little further west, and running through Prairie Ronde and Kalamazoo to Grand Rapids, Newago and Muskego, another road competing for all the business of that country and drawing it to that city or around the lake, by an unbroken and uninterrupted road to New York and New England. All this has been the work of a few years. That route is without break, and, therefore, the drain in that direction has developed with the greatest force and power, and is, by many channels, already open.

A STRONG CONSIDERATION.

There is not even now west of Detroit, or even north of it, any considerable extent of the State where Toledo is not contesting with Detroit for the business of the country, and where the south shore roads and its many branches are not picking up the traffic of transportation and carrying it away from the shorter, and but for the river, the better roads to the eastern markets. The members of the Board of Trade of Toledo, and the merchants of that city, are the purchasers and recipients of all the profits of this business, justly and with proper advantages, belonging to Detroit. Are the people of Detroit content with this state of things?

EARTH TO EARTH.

Death of An Early Settler in the Maumee Valley.

Mrs. Lucia B. Van Tassel, daughter of Rev. Joseph Badger, died in Maumee City, Thursday, February 5, 1874. She was born in Blandford, Mass., in 1794, January 19, and was therefore a little past eighty years old. In 1802, her father removed to the Western Reserve. She obtained a fair education and was a successful teacher. While teaching, she prepared and had published an English Grammar, for the use of her pupils. She was married when 28 years old; and in October 1822, in company with her husband, Rev. Isaac Van Tassel, came to labor among the Ottawa Indians of Maumee Valley. They remained at the station 12 years. Her labors at the station were arduous, consisting of teaching and instructing, of visiting the Red man in his hut, to minister to his physical and spiritual wants. During her labors among them, as many as 30 embraced Christianity. Upon leaving the station Rev. Van Tassel purchased a homestead in Plain, Wood county, where they resided until in 1848, when he died. She was then thrown upon her own resources.

She now attended a medical college in New York State, thoroughly qualified herself, and went to Memphis, Tennessee, where she successfully practiced the healing art for five years. She possessed great energy. She once rode horse-back from Ashtabula county, O., to Mass. She was quiet and modest, yet constantly thinking and laboring for the good of her fellows, the comfort of her friends.

She had a good mind, well stored, well balanced, and not meanly cultured. Her disposition was cheerful and agreeable; she was a firm believer in woman's rights; she was a faithful Christain, a useful member of society. Love for her fellow creatures was the most marked trait of her character. She believed that in her disembodied state she would be permitted to exercise a watchful care over her loved friends on earth. She died as one falling to sleep. Her body sleeps beside the body of her aged father in the cemetery at Perrysburg.

Rev. Dye, of Maumee, preached the funeral sermon, and Rev. Vance, of Haskins, spoke of her life, labors and character. I close this imperfect sketch of a beautiful life by quoting from her diary of January, 1852:

"Having been prospered in my pecuniary concerns since the death of my dear husband, and blessed with unusual health, I now resolve to contribute one-tenth of all the money which I receive, from whatever source, in some way for the spread of the Gospel and the advancement of the cause of religion. And I do not include in this the sum subscribed toward the support of our pastor, which I consider a debt for personal benefit received."

P. N. M.

(Cleveland *Herald* and Bowling Green *Sentinel* please copy.)

A DISPUTED QUESTION.

Obstruction or No Obstruction—The Navigation of Detroit River—Important to Mariners.

The Board of U. S. Army Engineers, detailed to examine into the feasibility of bridging the Detroit and St. Clair rivers, have submitted their report. Accompanying it are a vast number of documents, both for and against the bridge. Its enemies sustain their views with reports from the Custom Houses and Boards of Trade at Chicago, Milwaukee, Detroit, Toledo, Sandusky, Cleveland, Erie, Buffalo, Tonawanda, and the Welland Canal. The following proposition from the Michigan Central and Canada Southern Railways is also attached to the report:

"For the purpose of harmonizing, as far as possible, the apparently conflicting interests between the vessel owners and the railroad companies, we herewith submit the proposition on behalf of the Michigan Central and Canada Southern Railroads, that a grant of the Government, allowing said roads to construct winter bridges over the Detroit River, with two openings of 400 feet each, and a draw of 166 feet to each bridge, will be cheerfully accepted and acted upon by said railroads."

The report of the Examing Board, which has been submitted to the Committee on Commerce, of the House of Representatives, concludes as follows:

Finally, the Board would remark that at no point between Lakes Huron and Erie should a bridge be permitted having less than 700 feet clear opening; that no construction should be commenced without prior approval of the plan and location by the Secretary of War; that, under his direction, the construction should be so carried on as during its progress to give the least obstacle to navigation; that the opening of 700 feet should be kept clear to navigation from April 1st to December 1st of each year under severe penalties; that as a portion of the opening might be in Canadian waters, to control this portion so far as the interests of American commerce are concerned, the United States should reserve the right at any time to stop the running of trains across the American portion of the bridge.

They think that a bridge of the character alluded to under the third head, as above, would be the best, if one is to be constructed, and a plan and estimate was made for them by Mr. W. S. Pope, the president of the Detroit Bridge and Iron Works. This plan gives two movable portions, each 400 feet long. Each portion is made of two spans, the abutting ends being supported by a pontoon, and the extreme ends resting on permanent piers of the bridge; during the season of navigation the pontoons and spans resting on them to be removed from the channel. The estimated cost was was $1,666,500.

In discussing this plan, the board changed it by substituting for the pontoons movable caisson piers, resting on permanent foundations, at least eighteen feet below the lowest known stage of water, the caissons being floated to their foundations, loaded and sunk at the close of navigation, and the trusses placed upon them. Two such piers to be used, with three spans resting on them; the removal of the caisson part of the two piers and the three supported spans, at the opening of navigation, to give a clear water way of 700 feet, measured at right angles to the current. Bridge to have 30 feet clear headway, the rest of it to have 300-foot spans, and with a pivot-draw with two openings of 100 feet each in the clear, near the American shore; this draw being kept constantly open during the season of navigation. The 700 foot opening to be, if practicable, in American waters. Such a bridge gives to navigation, during the season, a clear water way of 700 feet, while at Sarnia, the river is only 800 feet wide, and at the lime kilns practically much less for heavy vessels. To the railroads, it gives a bridge during the winter months, when, alone, the need of a bridge is imperative.

The board deems a water way 700 feet wide during the season of navigation sufficient to accommodate the commerce in question without serious inconvenience, and they therefore think the bridge just described admissible, so far as the interests of navigation are concerned, without being so costly as practically to prohibit its construction to a railroad company. But while it suffices for the needs of the railroad, it requires the ferry system to be kept up, and is a bridge useless to it for eight months in the year; while it is not a grave obstacle to navigation, it yet cramps a noble navigable river, which, if it had been formed by and would have been held as of priceless value; it diminishes its width by two-thirds, and places in it permanent obstacles to navigation.

A New Thing and a Good Thing.—Marble and stone workers have experienced great difficulty in raising stone or marble pillars, or monuments to perpendicular position without breaking the corners of the work. John G. Sherwood, Esq., of Bucyrus, Ohio, has invented and patented an apparatus which does this work in one-tenth the time of any other method and with no danger whatever of marring the finest work. Mr. S.'s apparatus is two pieces of strong plank lined with rubber, and connected with iron rods. The pieces are drawn together with the rods, the rubber clinging to the stone on the principal of the boy's "sucker," by which the mischievous imps raise bricks out of pavements. The shape of the monument make no difference with the working of the apparatus. A shaft tapering to the top is handled just as readily as any others. Marble cutters who have monuments to set up assert that the Hoister is invaluable. We have seen it work and can testify to its excellence. Mr. Jas. Armstrong, of the Armstrong Heater and Filter Company, Toledo Ohio is interested in the patent and will give all information concerning it. It is a good and useful invention.

CON CON.

The County Vote—Delegate Steadman.

Subjoined is the vote cast upon the 12th inst in the various townships, wards, and precincts of the County for delegate to the Constitunal Convention, by which it will be seen that apathy did it work well.

	VOTE. Baker.	Steed'n.	MAJ. Baker.	Steed'n.
Toledo—				
1st Ward	220	102	118	...
2d "	221	303	...	82
3d "	398	277	121	...
4th "	73	432	...	359
5th "	150	305	...	155
6th "		34	...	34
7th "	146	140	6	...
8th "	32	189	...	157
Townships—				
Adams, 1st pre't.	39	10	29	...
" 2d "	22	15	7	...
Manhattan	47	7	40	...
Monclova	43	20	22	...
Oregon	22	11	11	...
Providence		4	...	4
Springfield	19	48	...	29
Swanton	20	2	18	...
Sylvania	52	10	42	...
Washington	80	70	10	...
Waterville	44	20	25	...
Whitehouse	24	27	...	3
Maumee—1st W.	47	26	21	...
" 2d W.	32	28	4	...
" 3d W.	9	28	...	19
Waynesfield	6	6	...	...
Total vote	1725	2110	474	842

Majority for Steedman, 368.

No elections were held in Richland and Spencer Townships.

TEMPERANCE.

The Tempestuous Teetotalers—Movements for the Suppression of the Liquor Sale—No Half-Way Measures.

A large and enthusiastic Temperance meeting was held Thursday night at the Unitarian Church, in which it was clearly shown by the interest made manifest that the movement to suppress the evils of intemperance was yet in its "growing age," and was developing an earnestness of feeling, out of which it is hoped nothing but good can result. Addresses were delivered by Col. D. F. DeWolf and others, and stirring songs sung by the Tremainsville Division choir.

On Tuesday evening next, another meeting at the same place.

This evening there will be a re-union temperance meeting at the Eleventh Street Christian Church, at which an interesting time is expected.

The subjoined circular has been received by the several Temperance Divisions here, from the State office in Cincinnati:

OFFICE OF GRAND SCRIBE, S. OF T. OF O.,
CINCINNATI, Feb. 2, 1874.

To Officers and Members S. of T. of Ohio:

As you are doubtless aware, bills are now pending before the Legislature of Ohio to modify or entirely expunge our present Temperance Laws from the Statute Book. Those connected with the liquor interests are making the most strenuous efforts for the passage of these bills.

We think, occupying the prominent position we do as a Temperance Order, it behooves us to act at once with energy and efficiency in protesting, through the medium of petition, against the scheme. It is important that members should act at once in securing signitures to the accompanying Petitions, and to forward the same without delay to some reliable Representative at Columbus. If not convenient so to do, they can be forwarded to this office. This matter demands immediate attention.

JOHN GUNDRY, G. S.

The following petition to the General Assembly is being circulated for signatures:

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of Ohio;

Your petitioners, citizens of Lucas county, respectfully ask your honorable body that you enact no law or amendment to any section of the law that will in any wise impair or weaken any of the statutes now in force, which "provide against the evils resulting from the sale of intoxicating liquors in the State of Ohio," passed May 1, 1854, and especially sections 7 and 10, passed April 18, 1870, commonly called the Adair law.

TO RENT—My Farm in Washington Township, of 160 acres; 90 of which are improved; one and a half miles from city limits. Good fences; house suited for two families; large orchard of apples and pears; 1,200 trees in good condition; soil good, well adapted to general farming, gardening or milk purposes. Sheds, barn, corn house, and hog-house all in good condition. DR. J. CLARK.
Toledo, Feb. 12, 1874.

FOR SALE—By the subscriber, a Fine Improved Farm of 168 Acres, in South Kansas: large young orchard, all kinds small fruits, 1½ miles hedge, etc; coal and salt mines in close proximity. Price, $3,000; will trade for property near Toledo. E. W. TILTON, corner of Detroit avenue and Bancroft street.

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Cattle, Sheep, New Spotted Hogs,
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Also, Breeder of the New Spotted Hogs. Address N. R. CHEADLE, Box 43, Delta, Ohio.

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250 Tons of Good Bone Fertilizer, at $10.00 per ton.
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WALNUT, Butternut, Cherry, Ash, Whitewood, Oak, sycamore, &c., &c., kept constantly on hand ready for immediate use, dryed by Beach's High Pressure Steam Process.
All grades and thickness of Walnut, Newell's Bannisters, Flooring, Pannels, Wanescoting Coffin Setts, one inch to twelve inch plank; Ash and Oak Flooring and Door Sills, and Red Oak Finishing Lumber.
We are Agents for The United States Lumber Seasoning Company, using Beach's High Pressure Steam Seasoning Process.
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Dress Goods and Silks
Very Cheap to Reduce Stock.
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Constitutional Convention.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 10.—The Convention was called to order by the President, Mr. King; 82 members present a roll call. After the reading of the journal, the Convention proceeded to the consideration of the Judicial article, which has been under discussion for the last ten days, with no material changes from the report of the Committee of the Whole, except in said report the committee provided for the veto power vested in the Governor, and that to pass a bill over said veto it required three-fifths of the vote of the General Assembly, and Mr. Campbell's amendment which was adopted provides that a majority is all that is necessary. A motion was made by Mr. Woodbury to so change the 31st section as to require two-thirds of all the votes cast to remove a county seat when the county seat is to be removed to a point further from the centre of the county, which was not agreed to; so the section, as reported by the committee, which provides that a county seat may be removed by a majority vote prevailed, and the Convention passed to the consideration of the balance of the sections, so the article has been considered entire. Some new sections were proposed, but up to this date none were agreed to. Convention adjourned.

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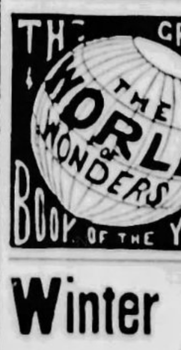

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Farm, Garden and House

Wintering Cabbages.

It is not generally known that cabbages will make heads in the winter if properly fixed. The way to do it is this: Dig up those that have began to turn to head, but are not mature when frost sets in, with as much earth as will to the roots, and without stripping off the outer leaves. Prepare a trench in a dry, sheltered situation, nearly as deep as the cabbages with the roots down. Crowd them into the trench—with the roots down; then cover them with straw or prairie grass, forming a kind of thatch over them. When hard frosts set in put on more grass, and earth enough to keep them all secure, but shed the water off as much as possible. This covering out to be 10 or 12 inches in thickness.

The heads formed in winter are white, tender and delicate, and those which are loose and unfit for culinary purposes in the fall, become compact and solid before spring.

Laying Down Land to Grass.

This as important process, requiring far more judgment and care than are usually bestowed upon it. The practice is but too common, of cropping land to grain until it is pretty well exhausted, and then seeding it down, as though grass required little or no fertility of soil to sustain it. To this mistake may be attributed many of the failures, and much of the disappointment connected with the branch of farming now under consideration.

In England, where the richness and permanence of meadows and pastures are proverbial, it is regarded as essential that the soil should be in good heart, and in a clean condition before laying it down to grass. No intelligent farmer in the old country would think of seeding down a field that had been neglected, or had become foul with weeds. A field in such a state would be summer-fallowed, and treated to deep and frequent cultivation, as a preparative to the purpose to which it was to be devoted. Drainage and liming would also be resorted to. In this country, one or two well manured hoed crops form an excellent preparation for grass. It is essential to the best success that there should be thorough preparation in some way or other. The idea that land in any condition, no matter how run out or dirty, is good enough for grass, ought to receive no countenance from sensible farmers, anywhere, at this time of day.

Supposing the land to be in proper tilth, regard should be had to the question whether mowing or pasturage is desired. A grass well adapted for meadow, may be quite unsuitable for pasturage. For example, timothy, one of our best grasses for mowing, is not equally good for pasturing, as it cannot bear close cropping by stock. Whatever the object in laying down to grass, it is advisable to sow a mixture of seeds. If meadow is desired, a selection should be made of such species as come into flower about the same time. On the other hand, if pasturage is wanted, such varieties should be chosen as will keep up a fresh and successive growth from early spring until late autumn. The chief grasses desirable for mowing, are timothy, red top, white bent, orchard grass, perennial rye grass, June grass, rough stalked meadow grass, meadow fescue, and tall fescue. No place is given in this enumeration to the clovers, because it is customary and best to use them in a rotation with other crops, and to allow them to occupy the soil only for a year or two as a recuperative change. The prominent varieties best fitted to form pasturage, are meadow foxtail, orchard grass, red top, sweet scented vernal, June grass, meadow fescue, and yellow oat grass. The choice of kinds, and the proportion of admixture, are matters that require judgment in view of peculiarities of soil, climate and exposure. A liberal supply of seed is advisable in all cases.

The question has been much discussed whether low grass seeds by themselves or with a grain crop. Both methods have their advocates, and, as usual in greatly debated matters, much may be said on both sides. The safest answer is, "that depends," mainly on climate; where moist and cool, sow alone; where drouthy and hot, sow with grain. Sown alone, the young plants get rooted more quickly and strongly, and have the full benefit of all the fertilizing material of the soil. Sown with grain, they have partial shade with its accompanying moisture, at the cost of what the grain crop consumes for its support. In this country it is safer to sow with grain, though we have known lone sowings to turn out very well. But we are now so subject to dry, hot summers, that it is rather hazardous to sow grass by itself. Wheat is the best grain to seed down with, and winter wheat is preferable to spring. It is becoming somewhat common to use barley as a seeding down crop, but we find the best practical farmers in England objecting to it from its peculiar habit of growth. The roots are spread immediately under the soil, and feed principally upon the upper layer. This peculiarity of barley not only deprives the young grass plants of needed sustenance, but leaves the surface of the land in a loose, puffy state, unfavorable to the well-being of the succeeding crop. A well cultivated soil under, with a firm surface, are desirable conditions for grass, and they are secured with a partnership of wheat. When grain and grass are sown together, steps must be taken to renew the fertility of which the land is deprived by the grain. It is well to leave a long stubble, and no stock of any kind should be allowed to pasture the young grass, no matter how strong a growth it may seem to have acquired. Barn-yard manure is not considered a good application at this early stage of growth, from its tendency, however well rotted, to smother down the feebler plants. A dressing of artificial manure is preferable. Superphosphate, guano, bone-dust, and sulphate of potash, are used instead. A recent English agricultural paper recommends the following admixture:—1 cwt. nitrate of soda, 2 cwt. superphosphate of lime, and 3 cwt. sulphate of potash; or, if equally cheap, 2½ cwt. of dissolved guano, and 3 cwt. sulphate of potash. After the first mowing, a liberal annual dressing of well-rotted barn-yard manure, liquid manure, or artificials must be given, if a respectable yield of hay is to be had. The plan of mowing year after year without manuring, associated as it usually is, with the sale of the hay off the farm, is the fatal road by which many a thoughtless farmer has travelled to poverty and bankruptcy. "Feed your land and it will feed you" is a maxim of universal application to crops, grass included.

When grass lands are intended for pasturage, the greatest care is needed not to graze them too early or too closely. A firm sward is needed to prevent sharp hoofs treading out tender rootlets, and a range must be given to avoid such close croppings as would destroy the crowns or hearts of the young plants. Pasturage is, at best, an extravagant way of feeding stock. They destroy and waste a large proportion of the food nature provides for them. Their droppings, unless gathered up and composted, which is costly and troublesome, smother and kill the grass on which they fall, except in the case of sheep, whose manure is sufficiently scattered to be beneficial, rather than harmful. As a general rule only the half cleared and broken parts of the farm should be devoted to pasturage. It would be good economy to clear up the patches of woods, taking off the decaying timber, brush and rubbish; grubbing out useless weeds, bushes and saplings; and seeding down what is now, to a great extent, waste land. There are also steep hills and deep valleys, gorges and low-lying spots, unfit for the plough or the mower, which might be improved into good pasturages. Too often such places are left in possession of an utterly useless growth of shrubs and weeds. A riddance of these; a cleaning up of the surface by the removal of stones and rubbish; and a scattering of grass seed, would make these neglected parts of the farm both useful and ornamental. A wise economy would dictate that only such parts of a farm as cannot be turned to better account should be pastured. All waste should be avoided; both the waste of allowing animals to range over the rich and fertile field, that can most profitably be devoted to the scythe and mowing machine; and the waste of permitting barren and unproductive places to exist as eye-sores, nuisances, and prolific nurseries of weeds.—*Canada Farmer.*

Wintering Calves.

The most difficult portion of cattle kind to keep through the season of the year, that farm stock has to be fed, is the calves. Every farmer possesses more or less of these, and as it is designed for them to grow up and become of large size, every possible means should be adopted to raise them to the greatest perfection. If they are not handled with great care and the strictest attention paid to their welfare, their growth is liable to be arrested, and such an injury received thereby as cannot be easily, if ever fully, repaired by the best of treatment afterwards. Cattle are like everything else; if they are stunted when young and their growth checked, they can never afterwards be made to grow so thriftily as they would have done; and therefore, too much pains cannot be taken with them while calves, to give them a good start. It must be remembered that big fine milch cows, and large fat steers, are obtained only by keeping them thrifty and growing rapidly all the time from the first of their existence until maturity of growth. Only the best of stock ought to be kept, as common scrub cattle eat as much, if not more, than those of an improved breed, and do not grow as fast, and therefore do not prove so profitable in the end. The best breeds are within the reach of all, and every farmer can procure such stock as he knows will be profitable in the greatest degree, if he will so decide, and at a very slight increase of cost over what is demanded for the cattle of inferior breeds.

It is astonishing how a great many farmers cling to the old common stock of the country when they could just as easily possess fine and larger breeds, and realize for their trouble profits largely on the increase over what they do receive. Calves of the best breeds are, in our estimation, worth double the amount of money that those are of common stock, and are not as much trouble to keep in a thrifty, healthy condition; and when the heifers become old enough to breed, they can always be sold readily for much more than the regular beef prices that drovers and butchers offer, as stock to convert into milch cows and for raising calves from; while the steers at maturity will always sell much quicker and at higher figures than common stock. Still another great advantage where the best breeds are kept, is the high prices that can be obtained for such calves as will do for bulls, as they are always in good demand at high rates, and can be sold at weaning time without any expense or trouble of keeping, for as much or more than a large steer will bring when three or four years old. A lot of good calves rightly kept, are about as profitable to a farmer as anything he can handle, and outside of the trouble of wintering them, which is no difficult matter if a person is rightly prepared for the business, by having good buildings to protect them from the weather when it is desirable, they need but little attention, as they can live eight, and sometimes ten months out of the year on the natural forage of the pastures. But as they do better by being fed some, in addition to the grass they get in the pastures through the late autumn and early winter months, it is advisable to feed them prepared food for at least six months out of the twelve, so as to insure their most rapid growth. In the stables, they do not need stalls or stanchions, but can all run together the same as mules or sheep, and are little or no trouble to care for or feed. The greatest trouble is to keep the apartment in which they stay free from accumulations of filth, but if absorbents are kept convenient and freely applied, very little time or labor will have to be spent to keep all snug and in good order.

They should be fed all they will eat when in the stable, such food as bright hay, well-cured corn fodder, chop, etc., and allowed, if the weather is mild and clear, to run out on pasture awhile every day to eat grass; and for this purpose a field should be reserved for them, expressly for winter use. Calves managed in this way, if they are good stock, cannot fail to grow to that standard of perfection which is the most desirable, and every farmer should labor for the greatest excellence in this branch of his business. W. A. G.

Flemingsburg, Ky., Jan. 1874.

Experience in Feeding Cattle.

I bought, November 1st, 1872, two two-year old steers (common stock); weight of both two thousand pounds. I wintered them on straw at the stack until the first of February, 1873, when I tied them up in a shed along with ten others, and fed corn fodder until grass came in the spring. Pastured them then on clover and timothy until the first day of September. The two steers weighed then 2 660 pounds. I now tied them up again (nights) keeping them still on grass in day time. They were fed corn night and morning until the 15th of November: after that day they were fed bran and meal, equal parts, three times a day, along with the ten others, until the 22d of December, 1873. The weight of the two steers was then 3,208 lbs. Sold at five cents per pound gross. During the last three months and twenty-two days there was a net gain of 548 pounds. Total gain in fourteen months of 1,208 pounds. The above steers received no more attention than the others, only the early feeding in September, October and part of November, although they were good two year olds, having been well kept from calves. The other ten averaged 1,250 pounds each (at the same age—three year old past) on the same treatment since November 15th, but these ten were brought up here and there, and had been indifferently kept from calves. My experience is that it pays the farmers well to feed their stock cattle some grain through the latter part of winter and early spring, even if they cannot afford to feed grain all through the winter; and that it is not a good plan to feed out in the weather if you can possibly avoid it, especially after the first of January. Cattle fall off much faster after that time, the storms being more frequent and much more severe after that date.—*Cor. Cin. Gazette.*

Profits of Poultry on the Farm.

One of the members of the San Jose Farmers' Club, in reply to a question, told how his wife cleared $800 last year on her poultry.

She started with one hundred hens. From these she raised a fine lot of early chickens, many of which she sold when nine weeks old at fifty cents each; and all the others averaged fifty cents in the fall. She raised 500 ducks, and sold a lot of them when six weeks old for fifty cents each, and the others averaged equally well. Also raised a fine lot of turkeys from eggs purchased, which she sold at good prices. She also sold a good many hens' eggs. The feed was, principally screenings from the threshing machine, bran and shorts from flour used in the family, and the run of the stubble fields. The ducks proved to be better layers than hens and are twice as profitable. The lady attended to the fowls, extra, besides attending to the household work for the family.

The fowls were allowed to range over two acres of land, including duck-pond, before grain harvest, and then, ranged over the fields at liberty. The ducks were great rangers, and could protect themselves against hawks by huddling together in squads when in danger. By keeping your ducks in board pens away from the water, with the exception of enough to drink, until a few weeks old, there is no trouble in raising them. His wife had kept a book account, and cleared $800 above all expenditures, on her poultry, and that, without any great exertion either. After harvest the feed was gleaned from the straw stack, and stubble-fields, and was so much saved. He wondered that so little attention was paid to poultry on the farms.—*Col. Agriculturist.*

A Substitute for Coffee.

Grape stones are said to be a better substitute for coffee than chiccory is. When roasted and ground they are said to possess an aroma very much like that of East India coffee, and the beverage obtained therefrom is about the same as coffee in taste, though inferior in quality. The beverage furnished by many of the restaurants is very far from being "about the same as coffee in taste," and it is probable that a decided improvement could be made on the present article by the use of grape stones.

Collodion in Horticulture.

The *Gazette des Campagnes* recommends dipping the ends of plant slips in collodion before setting them out. The collodion should contain twice as much cotton as the ordinary material used in photography. Let the first coat dry, and then dip again. After planting the slip, the development of the root will take place very promptly. The method is said to be particularly efficacious with woody slips, geraniums, fuchsias, and similar plants.

Miscellaneous.

The Detroit River Railway Bridge.

(From the Toronto Globe.)

It is time we had heard the last of any jealousy concerning the freest possible intercourse between the people of Canada and those of the United States. Where two countries stand in such close geographical affinity, sound policy would surely dictate the removal of every impediment that may prevent the most unrestricted communications between them. Yet upon reading the comments of the New York *Tribune* upon the report of the American engineers appointed to examine into the question of constructing a railroad bridge over the Detroit River, one can but be struck with the narrow and evidently prejudiced tone in which the subject is approached, both by the engineers and the journalist.

The Canadian Railways traversing the south-western Peninsula are not less useful to the Americans than to our own people. The Canada Southern and Great Western are, to all intents and purposes, links in the American railway system. To place any difficulty in the way of either the freight or passenger traffic between the Niagara and Detroit rivers is quite as injurious to American interests as to ours. It is admitted that during the winter season the delays in crossing the river opposite Detroit are most annoying. In summer the trip across is ordinarily accomplished by the ferry steamer in seventeen minutes, but it has in winter been known to take five hours, and in a very large number of cases has occupied two hours, owing to the obstructions by the ice. An attempt was made to construct a tunnel under the river, but after twelve months had elapsed the work was relinquished, owing to unexpected engineering difficulties by which the cost of the undertaking would have been enhanced. Under these circumstances, the Great Western of Canada and the Michigan Central, the two companies interested in the tunnel, propose to build a bridge, whilst another bridge is also contemplated, and, in fact, in progress, under the auspices of the Canada Southern at Stoney Island, about fifteen miles below Detroit.

In their report, the American engineers seek to belittle the commercial value of the services these bridges would render, by comparing the freights of the railway companies in question with those of the vessels passing up and down the river. "During the eight months of navigation," they say, "27,000 vessels pass through this channel, and of this number more than 20,000 have masts. The amount of freight carried by them is 9,000,000 tons annually." On the other hand the whole traffic of the Great Western in one year at this point is said to be only 888,310 tons, or less than one-tenth the tonnage passing by the water route. And, as it is only in the winter that any actual difficulty in crossing exists, it is assumed that 9,000,000 tons of freight is asked to yield its interests to about one-thirtieth of that amount.

But this is really begging the question. In regulating the traffic of our streets we do not stop to enquire whether the loaded wagon has a greater amount of wealth aboard than the light buggy. It is quite possible the occupant of the latter may have business on hand that overweighs in value the worth of its ponderous rival of the road. The real point is, however, not whether 9,000,000 tons of freight are to be sacrificed to 888 000 tons, but whether the latter cannot be accommodated without undue loss or injury to the former. Imagine the consequences of from two to five hours' delay in a through journey to the active, bustling, money-making crowd that are continually passing east and west by this very route. A rapid passage, and their arrival with certain regularity at their destination, is a necessity with a large proportion of these travellers. The same remark, in a great degree, holds good with regard to freights. Merchandize forwarded by railroad must, as a rule, be assumed to be of a description the prompt and punctual delivery of which is of the very last importance. On the other hand, the voyage taken by the vessels passing through the channel is long and tedious, and the trifling delay arising from the opening of a pivot bridge would be insignificant in proportion to the time occupied in the whole trip. It would, in fact, inflict the smallest conceivable loss on the shipping freights, whilst it would prove an incalculable benefit to the railroad traffic of both kinds.

A bridge could be built that would not obstruct the navigation at all, but, as the banks of the river are not more than 20 feet high, the grades would be very heavy, and the total cost of the work enormous, probably not less than nine millions of dollars. The most practicable and cheapest scheme appears to be a pivot bridge, to be swung open to admit the passage of vessels, and only to be closed when trains were actually crossing. This would probably cost not more than $2,500,000. Against such a proposal, however, the American engineers set themselves resolutely; and the *Tribune* [illegible] as their condemnation of the plan.

We come back, however, to the main issue. Will the navigation be seriously impeded by a pivot bridge? So far as the information before us goes the answer would seem to be in the negative. It can be hardly urged seriously that the free navigation of the Detroit channel will be curtailed, or its cost sensibly increased, by the brief delay one vessel in a dozen may experience on her arrival at the bridge. To allege that such a structure would "restrict competition," and cause "rates to rise at once" is a little far-fetched. We are more inclined to think that the opposition arises from that rather narrow-minded prejudice against Canadian enterprise and that ill-grounded dislike of Canadian competition which characterizes some of our American neighbors. The *Tribune*, it must be recollected, is the advocate of a Japanese policy of exclusion in all that relates to commercial intercourse between the two countries, and the indorsation it gives to the report of the American engineers smacks of the same spirit.

HIGH LIFE IN LONDON.

An American Woman in Trouble—Her Admirer Assaults a London Hotel Keeper.

[From the London Daily News.]

At the Marlborough Street Police Court in London, on January 17, Mr. Arthur Foster, clerk in a government office, was charged before Mr. Knox with having violently assaulted Mr. Denver, hotel keeper and wine merchant, 26 Dover street.

The complainant, whose head and forehead were covered with medical plaster, stated that he was walking from his office in Regent street to his place in Dover street about 10 o'clock that morning, when the prisoner made a blow at him with his stick, knocking off his hat. He received a second blow, which knocked him down, and when down he received several more blows on the head. He was so severely injured that he was obliged to be attended by a doctor. The only reason that he could give for this attack was that the prisoner and his brother visited a lady who had taken apartments at the hotel, the lady representing herself to be a married woman, her husband holding a high position in America, and that they were told to leave the hotel. The prisoner said nothing before striking him.

In reply to the prisoner the complainant said he did not take a constable into Mrs. Beecher's room about 12 o'clock at night; it was between 1 and 2 in the morning; nor did he send a gang of bullies to insult the lady.

In defense the prisoner said one Sunday evening he was with his brother visiting a lady at Price's Hotel, Dover street, the lady being a married woman, her husband holding a high position. At 12 o'clock at night the complainant came into the lady's room and ordered him and his brother out of it. The lady, considering that this was a piece of presumption on the part of the landlord, told them to stay. The complainant fetched a constable, but the constable went away, and he and his brother left an hour afterward.

On the following day the lady was going into the country to pay a visit to Lady Yarborough, but in consequence of what had occurred she did not like to leave her sister behind and alone. After dining at the Junior Carlton Club, he went to the hotel in Dover street to see his friend and to ascertain how she was getting on. He found she had been treated with considerable tyranny—being denied food. He was hustled out of the house and spoken to from the balcony by Mrs. Beecher's sister. The complainant insulted his brother, and his brother struck him. On the Monday evening two bullies, like bricklayers' laborers, were brought into the house. They insulted the lady, addressed most disgraceful language to her, calling her "Polly Skittles," and because they knew that his brother's name was William they called out that she would not have "Willy" to be with her that night. Meeting the complainant that morning he struck him, intending to mark him.

Mrs. Beecher said she was married to a banker in New York. Her husband was a gentleman of position. She went to the complainant's hotel with her sister about two or three weeks back, and engaged apartments. She saw the complainant's wife, and distinctly told her that her habits were not those of English people, being fond of late hours. She distinctly told the complainant's wife she kept irregular hours, and would probably be late on some occasions. It was about four days from the time of her taking the rooms before anything unpleasant took place. This was owing to damage to a cabinet, which was afterward put down in the bill and paid for. After this she was subjected to annoyance from the landlord and landlady. Men in the dress of laborers were employed to walk backward and forward in front of the hotel. Did not know who placed them. He had been insulted by them.

Cross-examined by Mr. Tompkins.—A bricklayer came into her sitting-room; would deny that the prisoner or his brother had ever been in her bed-room; had not received a notice to leave in consequence of her irregular hours; was refused necessaries because they wanted her to leave; had been frequently subjected to unpleasant remarks.

Miss Eveline Brooks, sister to the last witness, had heard unpleasant observations made on her sister; could not repeat the words. They were to the effect that her sister was a loose, good-for-nothing woman, and that she was a "Polly Skittles."

Mr. Knox had no doubt that improper words had been used that ought not to be used. He should remand the case, and should require substantial bail, the defendant in £2 000, and one surety in £1,000, to keep the peace and for reappearance.

RARE OLD VIOLINS.

Fabulous Prices for Instruments Whose Tone Has Been Perfected by Age.

[From the New York Sun, February 2.]

Anyone possessed of $4,000 in gold and sufficient musical enthusiasm to spend it in the purchase of ancient instruments, can obtain for that sum, two violins by eminent makers and more than a century and a half old. They are in the possession of Mr. Herman Konig, of 291 Bowery, who has been commissioned to sell them by a well-known collector, who purchased them more than forty years ago. One of these instruments, the most valuable, was made by Antonius Stradivarius in 1772. For this alone $3,000 in gold is demanded. Violins bearing the name of Stradivarius are very rare. New York, it is said, can boast of but three, two of which are in the possession of Mr. John B. Waters, of Brooklyn. The third is that now offered for sale. It is well preserved. The deep, mellow tone which swells from it when the strings are touched, and which can be bestowed only by the purifying hand of time, would delight the heart of a connoisseur. The second instrument was manufactured by Carlo Bergonzi in 1733. Bergonzi was a pupil of Stradivarius, and though his instruments are not held in such high esteem as those of his illustrious master, they are nevertheless very rare, and command large prices. This one is offered singly for $1 500 in gold. Like the other it has evidently passed through careful hands, and bears no marks of ill usage. To the ordinary violinist there is no perceptible difference between the tones of the two instruments, to the cultivated ear one can detect a depth and purity in the workmanship of Stradivarius that is lacking in that of the less renowned pupil. The largest price ever paid for a violin was probably that given to Mr. Hart, the great London collector. He received £700 for an instrument of Joseph Guarnerius. Paganini, who played on one of Guarnerius's violins, considered this maker among the best that the world has ever seen.

The fabulous prices now paid for old instruments will soon be among the things of the past. Violins bearing such names as those of Stradivarius, Guarnerius, Amati, and Bergonzi are becoming very rare, and ere long will not be purchasable. They probably owe their excellence less to their superior workmanship than to the tone acquired through their great age. The modern masters are in no way inferior to their predecessors of a hundred years ago, but whereas the latter were but few in number, Europe is surfeited with the former, and in the middle of the next century old instruments will be too plentiful to command a tithe of the price freely given for them now. Probably the most renowned maker of our day is Villaume, of Paris, and his instruments command higher prices than any others in Europe. He usually charges about 500 francs. In New York the competition is not so great, and larger sums are obtained. A violin by Konig would bring about $150.

America can boast of several very successful collectors. Among these are Mr. John B. Waters, of Brooklyn. Besides the two violins of Stradivarius already mentioned, he possesses three instruments by the most renowned old masters. He values the five at $9,000, but would not sell them at any price. Indeed, except under extraordinary circumstances, he reluctantly allows them to be seen; and when he is prevailed upon to produce them, the person for whom the favor is granted must hold them with the utmost care by portions of attached leather, so as not to injure them by the profaning touch of the hand.

Southern Coal Mines.

In another field the development at the South, commencing with Virginia, and running in a belt through the Southern States in a southwesterly direction, down in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, has been equally promising. Mines of wealth literally, long hidden in the bowels of earth, or neglected where known to exist, through external indications, have at length been brought to public notice, and have been examined both by enterprising citizens of the South and Northern, and English Engineers and capitalists, with a view to investment. Many of both classes have commenced the actual working of coal and iron, neglecting the apparently more precious metals, which are also found in abundance. The Chesapeake and Ohio road through Virginia, has opened the path to that vast coal-bed in the Kanawha region, which threatens to compete in the Northern coal supply with Pennsylvania; and at Rome, in Georgia, and Birmingham, in Alabama, coal and iron are found in close proximity, and forges and rolling-mills have sprung up to work the metal on the spot; while Georgia boasts a "stone" mountain, yet unworked, which bids fair to be an eighth wonder of the world in no very distant future. At Chattanooga, in Tennessee, the rolling-mills, which did great service to the Confederates during the war, have passed into the hands of a private company, to whom they were sold by the Federal Goverdment. This Co. has added a new mill and new processes, and mine their own coal and iron fifteen miles higher up the river, bringing down pig iron and coal in small steamers, drawing two feet of water. They are working two veins of coal and two of iron in such immediate proximity that the furnace is midway between them. The company boasts of being able to send rails to Pittsburg, the great iron and coal centre of Pennsylvania, cheaper than they can be produced there, owing to this fact. The Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad passes hence through the mineral districts of Alabama, lying between the Coosa and Black Warrior rivers, where the thriving town of Birmingham has already sprung up, and the "black diamonds," as they are popularly called in Alabama, as well as the iron, have already revived dreams of renewed wealth and prosperity in that region, now beginning to be grimy with coal smoke, and lit up with the lurid lights of rolling-mills and founderies. The Alabama coal is already competing successfully with the Pennsylvania in Louisiana, Alabama, and Georgia, where it can be put down far cheaper than its rival, and of equally good if not superior quality. Tuscaloosa has been mining its own coal in a careless way for half a century. The Warrior Coal-field runs from this point to the northeastern corner of Alabama, between Lookout Mountain and the Tennessee river. It embraces an area of 3,000 square miles, and coal seams from one to three feet thick abound over the whole of this wide district.—There are twenty-five localities in the basin of the Warrior, where the coal crops out upon the surface, and has been more or less imperfectly mined and made merchantable. They are scooping it from the hill sides, where it is deposited in beds of unknown breadth, gathering it from the edge of roads, and diving for it in the bed of the Warrior River, and its forks. It is for the most part, a soft, bituminous coal, but burns brightly, and can hardly be excelled for the generation of heat and steam. The Canawba coal-field, a little further south, in the center of the State, is still richer in mineral deposit than the Warrior, though smaller, having an area of only 700 miles. Seams of coal have been found in five or six places there from three to eight feet thick, and beds of hematite iron ore in surpassing richness. Great beds of coal and iron, with seams from seven to fifteen feet in thickness, constitute the back bone of the mineral wealth of Alabama, loosely scattered over more than 4,000 square miles of territory.—*Harper's Magazine for February.*

A French Bedroom.

[From French Home Life.]

Now go to the bedroom, and from the door absorb it with your eyes, for never have you seen a picture more complete. The walls, the hangings, and the seats are all in pale blue satin (she is fair), edged sparingly with velvet of the same shade, and embroidered daintily with moss-rose buds, swathed in still paler yellow leaves. But this description though exact, gives no idea of the effect produced by that wondrous tissue, of the incredible effect of the delicacy and thorough feminine elegance which it sheds around. The room is filled with vague, floating grace, its very detail is combined to aid and sustain the almost fairy aspect it presents. The bed is shrouded in thickly wadded satin curtains, inside which hang others made of muslin so vaporously filmy that its folds seem almost mist, the coverlet, which hides the lace-trimmed sheets and pillows, is in blue satin, lined with eider down, and covered with the same veil of floating white, hanging down in a deep flounce over the woodwork of the bed.—The toilet-table is the same—a swelling mass of transparency and lace, with blue beneath, and knots and streamers of mingled satin and velvet round. On the chimney place stands a clock and candlesticks of Sevres china. The piano is in pale *bois de rose* (not rosewood, which is a very different substance,) inlaid with plaques of painted Sevres to match. At night light comes from above, where hangs a lamp of Sevres again. In our day, with our active ideas and actual wants, such rooms as these are typical; they represent the highest form of realization of modern taste without its faults, or rather with as little of them as is consistent with the expenditure of so much money, and so much thought. In these rare cases, vanity seeks for another satisfaction than that of glare, but vanity is at the bottom of all, the same; the only difference is that it is accompanied by a true sense of art.

A Liquor Raid on the Principal Hotels of Boston.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

BOSTON, February 4.

The prohibitory law was enforced again to-day, and the seizers made the largest haul of liquors ever known since the statute was enacted. Young's Hotel, the Sherman House and the Tremont House were visited at 3 o'clock, and a descent at once made. They took all the wines and liquors in the bar at the Tremont House, and all in the wine-room except what was in decanters labeled with the owners' names. The lot included many bottles of wine marked on the list as high as $10, including fine old Madeiras of 1818, old port and brandy from thirty to fifty years old. The State Police say the lot was worth $5,000, and the house estimates its loss at $1,800. At the same time another party was visiting Young's, whence they removed fifty bottles champagne, about 200 gallons of wine, and a miscellaneous lot of liquors, everything that the bar contained, and all the loose packages in the cellar. The amount lost is estimated at from $4,000 to $6 000.

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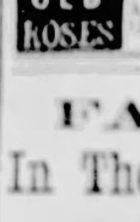

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News of the Week.

WASHINGTON.

The bill introduced into the House in relation to the compensation of Postmasters, fixes the following rates: New York, $10,000; Chicago, St. Louis Philadelphia, Boston, $8,000 each; Cincinnati, Brooklyn, Baltimore, $6 000 each. Provided such salaries be paid from moneys received from box, stamps, and other sources in excess of the expenditures allowed for rent, clerk hire, and other necessaries.

The bill of Mr. Dawes, referred to the Postoffice Committee, proposes that on all mail matter of the first class, including local or drop letters and postal cards, the postage shall be charged at the rate of two cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof, provided, however, that no stamped envelopes shall be hereafter issued.

The House has passed a bill authorizing persons to write their names and contents of all packages upon the outside of any printed matter of the third class. This is to correct a recent decision of the Postmaster General which rules that the words "Printed Matter" upon book or newspaper packages subject them to letter postage. The bill also permits the writing a form of presentation on the inside of books, and declares that no additional charge shall be collected for matter heretofore sent by reason of additional writing thereon.

Senator Allison will, at the next meeting of the joint committee on Library, offer a resolution directing the Congressional Library to be kept open Sundays.

A delegation of Ohio River steamboatmen were heard Tuesday, Feb. 10th, by the House Committee on Commerce on the bill providing for the payment of the Louisville & Portland Canal Company. An amendment to the original bill was agreed to, authorizing the Secretary of War, instead of the Secretary of the Treasury, to take possession of the property. It was agreed to take final action next Thursday.

Mr. Sherman, Special Pension Agent of Northern Ohio, urged before the House Committee on Invalid Pensions, on the 11th, a detective for each of fifty-two agencies, to prevent frauds, which he stated to be twenty five per cent. of all the claims paid out.

The chances for Mexican War veterans to be placed on the pension rolls are not improving. Statistics show the average age of survivors of the War of 1812, when placed on the rolls, to be over seventy-five years. The Mexican veterans average only fifty-two years.

The report of the Senate Transportation Committee will be ready this month. It is believed that the committee will either report absolutely against the Government aid or else favor the adoption of one particular route to be completed under the national patronage.

The House Committee on Railroads and Canals have decided to report in favor of chartering a narrow guage railroad from a point in North Carolina to Leavenworth, Kansas.

Secretary Fish is emphatic in denying as untrue, the statement of the Paris Patrie that sharply worded notes have recently passed between the Governments of Germany and the United States. Nor is the German Minister aware of any subject of unkind feeling between the two countries.

The joint committee to investigate the affairs of the District of Columbia met Wednesday afternoon, Senator Boutwell presiding, and appointed a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Boutwell, Wilson, Thurman and Hamilton, to consider the best mode of conducting the investigation. The committee came to the conclusion that it would be best to have the investigation public to the extent of allowing to be present authorized representatives of the press, and parties interested in the investigation, with their counsel. The joint committee will not meet again until the sub-committee are ready to report.

The army reduction bill, under consideration of the House Military Committee, has been printed for the private use of members of the Committee only. It provides for a sweeping reduction in the army, and among others, of five regiments of infantry, two of cavalry, and one of artillery. The officers who may necessarily be affected by the reduction are to receive one year's pay on being mustered out. Important changes are also proposed in the number and mode of selection of officers as Commanding Generals of the several military departments. The bill provides for the appointment of Assistant Surgeons and Assistant Quartermasters from officers who have served in the Medical and Quartermasters' Department during the late war, and that the first twenty graduates of each year from the military academy shall be assigned to regiments and the remainder discharged.

The House committee has begun work in the direction of perfecting the river harbor appropriation bill. The report of the Chief Engineer of the Army, which is very voluminous, containing as it does detailed statements of work already done on rivers and harbors, and necessary in the future, is under inspection by the committee, and members of Congress have been given hearings at different times in behalf of the improvements recommended their respective districts. The estimates for all the improvements recommended call for $4 000 000. The present intention of the committee is to draw up a bill appropriating between $3,000,000 and $3,500,000. They hold this view, however, that in the event the prosperity of the country continues to revive, they may, by the 1st of April—the time set by the committee for having the bill prepared—increase the amount. Another fact which will have no little effect in influencing the committee, and be of considerable weight in determining their action, is the popular demand in the entire West for cheap freights. The theory of the committee is, if the water line communications are so improved that vessels drawing more water than those now in use can navigate the canals and rivers, heavy loads can be taken, and rates of transportation made cheaper. They will hold this fact in view, and be governed in making larger appropriations for improvements in proportion to the demand in this connection.

It is understood that the House Committee on Appropriations desire to prevent action upon the finance bills until all appropriation bills have been consid'd ered. It is now estimated that the finance debate in the House may continue one month.

The Representatives from the frontier Western States are organizing to oppose the entire system of Peace Commissioners. The debate will arise in connection with the Indian Appropriation bill.

The House Committee on Education and Labor took up the several petitions before it asking for the repeal of the eight hour law and decided that it was not expedient to recommend the repeal.

The Secretary of the Treasury sent a communication to the House of Representatives on the 12th inst., in reference to a resolution calling for a statement of the amount of money paid from March 1, 1869, to November 3, 1873, by any person or persons in the settlement of suits, judgments, or claims made by or in behalf of the United States, for a violation of the revenue laws at Boston and New York. The statement accompanying the letter gives about 3 500 cases in New York, the names of delinquents, amount of indebtedness, and names of informers, with the amount awarded to them, and to the Collector, Surveyor, and Naval officer, &c. The indebtedness, is for the greater part in individual cases, are small, ranging from $20 to $1,000. Some of the large amounts, with the names of the delinquents, are given. Special agent B. G. Jayne is stated as an informer in cases mentioned, and as receiving $93,000, in addition to at least $1,000 in smaller cases. Apart from these is the statement of the delinquency of Phelps, Dodge & Co., namely, $271,017. The cost and expenses of recovery was $8 145. Jayne, as informer in this case, received $65,718, and the collector, surveyor and naval officer each one-third of that sum, or $31,906, these officers in all similar cases receiving one-third as much as the informer. Frank E. Howe, George Brown, and C. L. Brackett received $14,500 from the delinquency of other firms. The gross proceeds were $4,310 391; duties, 222 775; costs and expenses, $234 104; net amount covered into the Treasury, $3,732 312. The Collector received $407,245; naval officers, $324,038; surveyor, $391,313; informers, $716 248; total amount distributed, $1,838,776; United States share remaining in the Treasury, $1,914,746.

The Secretary of the Treasury also transmits a statement of the fines, penalties and forfeitures in the District of Boston and Charlestown, from March 1, 1869, to November 3, 1873. Special Agent Jayne also received large amounts as informer here. Net amount covered into the Treasury, $609 401; Collector received, $50 816; Naval Officer, $50,817; Surveyor, 50,817; informers, $125,798; total amount distributed, $305,249; the United States share remaining in the Treasury, $304,151.

There is much feeling between Eastern and Western Congressmen on financial questions. Many of the Western Congressmen who desire more currency maintain that the present twenty-five million withdrawal bill is designed to defeat the passage of the law for free banking, or for the issue of additional currency. The indications are that for this reason the West and South will vote solid against it. The friends of free banking are confident of ultimate success.

The House Committee on Military Affairs have decided to recommend a reduction of the army, but there are doubts whether the House will favor such reduction. There is a very strong feeling against the reduction among the great majority of Western members.

The Senate Committee on Public Lands, on the 13th, heard the statements of a delegation of four Mennonites, from Pa., introduced by Senator Cameron, in support of his resolution looking to the enactment of a law by which forty or fifty thousand Mennonites, desirous of emigrating to this country from Russia, may be allowed to purchase a sufficiently large tract of land, in a compact body under the pre-emption laws. The committee seem disposed to regard the proposition favorably.

Postmaster-General Cresswell, while before the House Committee on Appropriations Friday, advocated the establishment on all Railroads of the United States of special mail trains, to be run at a high rate of speed, for the sole purpose of transmitting mail matter.

The Secretary of the Treasury has written to Gen. Garfield, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, enclosing a letter from the manufacturers of Baltimore endorsing the views and statements of Supervising Architect Mullett on the eight hour question, and saying their experience is his, that it is not only impossible for a man to perform as much labor in 8 hours as in 10, but that he absolutely performs less work per hour under the 8 hour system.

The letter further says the demoralizing effect on labor which the government has temporarily employed, has unfitted mechanics for regular day's work. In conclusion it is asked whether it would not be for the best interests of the country and the labor question, to repeal all laws governing hours of labor, and leave the question to settle itself by the laws of supply and demand.

The present civil commission not giving satisfaction, the House Committee on Civil Service Reform will soon introduce a bill to regulate appointments in executive departments, proposing to distribute appointments among members of Congress on the existing principle governing appointments to West Point and Naval Academy. The Committee will subsequently prepare a general law on the subject.

THE EAST.

A Philadelphia dispatch says that the 12th was taken up in the autopsy of the Siamese twins. Photographs of the corpses were taken in numerous positions, and from different points of views so as to put on permanent record their external appearance. The first cut, looking toward autopsy, which begin, formally to-day, was made in the abdomen of Eng. A hand was passed in at the opening, and the fingers carried nearly to the centre of the fleshy bond of union. This shows that the lining membranes of the general abdominal cavity leaves an opening into this fleshy band. Casts have been taken with highly successful results. A well-known artist, conversant with the subject from practice in the army hospitals, has been engaged to make drawings of the internal parts as they are devolved.

In New York, Feb 10th, at a meeting of the Cheap Transportation Association information was given that the people's freight road would soon be built across the continent which would be managed in the interests of the people after the work is fairly begun. It would be completed in three years.

The Committee on Terminal Facilities recommend a system of capacious warehouses at the termini of the railway lines here, affording a complete measure of relief, which will prevent a division of the grain trade.

The President of the N. Y. Produce Exchange has been requested by the members to convene that body to consider what steps can be taken for the relief of the poor of New York City.

In New York City the members of the Stock Exchange have opened a subscription list for the establishment of free soup houses in the lower part of the city. James Gordon Bennett has given $30,000 to supply soup to the poor from fire and police stations.

Isaac H. Bailey, receiver of the Commonwealth National Bank, has been authorized by the Court to sell the banking house and real estate of the establishment for the benefit of creditors.

The ice in the Hudson river broke up suddenly Saturday morning. Seven men at work on the Congress street drilling took refuge on two barges moored to the piers. The barges were forced down the river to a point near Albany, where the ice became jammed. During the day the ice became thoroughly wedged, and the men who were carried down the river on one of the barges, succeeded in reaching the shore. Five boats altogether were swept from their moorings, only one of which, it is expected, will be saved. After the ice broke up the water rose 10 feet in as many minutes. The water is now receding.

It is proposed to dispense with St. Patrick's day parade, in New York, this year, and to give the money for the relief of the poor.

Chief Justice Waite arrived in New York Sunday, and as soon as his presence in town was made known, he was called on by a number of distinguished citizens. The Chief Justice has declined the dinner tendered by the leading members of the Bar of New York.

THE WEST.

A Cleveland dispatch says: Judge R. C. Hurd, of Mt. Vernon, Ohio, died Feb. 11th, of dropsy of the heart, after a protracted illness. He was President of the Cleveland, Mt. Vernon & Columbus Railroad, and widely known.

The middle of last September C. K. Gilbert came to Cincinnati and deposited a large amount of cash in the banks, $65,000 in registered United States bonds, and $35,000 in Union Pacific bonds. He took rooms in the College buildings, hired a manager and bookkeeper, and gave out that he was going to buy boxed meats for European markets. He lived high, paid his rent and clerks, but bought no meats. He said his wife was a niece of Vanderbilt, and told his clerks that Vanderbilt had notified him that a crisis was coming. He professed to get a telegram last Friday that the crisis would be here in four days, and sent his clerks out to try to negotiate his bonds, but they suspected him to be a swindler, and did nothing. He himself tried to negotiate at the Third National Bank for $9,500. The bank agreed to collect, and forward by mail. Saturday Gilbert left, taking all his bonds and money, having paid all his debts. He has not been seen since. On the 9th inst. the Butchers' National Bank telegraphed that the check was raised from $100 to $8,500, and it is supposed he was trying to establish confidence to sell a large lot of stolen bonds. His personal expenses were over $10,000, and were all paid.

At St. Louis, Feb. 11, Council number one of the Sovereigns of Industry, was organized by W. C. Earle, of Worcester, Mass., Master of the National Council. This is the first subordinate Council organized in the West. Great interest has been excited, and Mr. Earle has numerous invitations from mechanics of this city and interior towns to organize Councils. There are five subordinate Councils now organized in the State and the Order is spreading rapidly.

At Chicago, Feb. 13, Judge Rogers, in the Criminal Court gave a decision on application of the Counsel of David A. Gage, ex City Treasurer, to quash the indictments for defalcation and perjury. The Court refused in the case of the former, but granted replication in the case of perjury. This is not considered favorable by the friends of Gage, as a new indictment has been found by another Grand Jury.

Great excitement was created at Quincy, Illinois, on the 13th, by the discovery that the First National Bank had been entered and the vaults robbed of about $100,000 in currency belonging to the bank, besides a quantity of bonds and valuable papers, and it is said quite an amount of special deposits. The bank was entered by cutting through the hall floor of the second story, immediately over the vault.

Rush R. Sloan, removed in October from the Presidency of the Cincinnati, Sandusky & Cleveland Railroad, was arrested at Sandusky on the 13th on seventeen distinct charges of embezzlement preferred by the Company. His bail was fixed at $46,000 for his appearance next Tuesday. It is understood that further charges are to be made. Civil suits for about $50,000 have already been commenced. Sloan's property in Chicago, Toledo, Boston and Sandusky has been attached.

Specials from various places in Southwestern Ohio report about 80 out of 140 places where liquor was sold, closed since the beginning of the Temperance movement. Reports came from 14 towns and villages. Logan, Leesburgh, New Vienna, Washington and Blanchester have won a complete victory. Muncie, Ind., reports eight out of eleven places closed. The average time of the movement in these places is less than two weeks.

THE SOUTH.

The Republicans of Texas are considering a plan to divide that State into two States to be called Eastern and Western Texas. This would make a Republican and a Democratic State. Some of the Representatives propose to introduce an enabling act in Congress for this purpose, in accordance with the precedent in the State of West Virginia.

A special to the Avalanche, from Jackson, Miss., says: Notwithstanding the debate in the House on Thursday, to adjourn till after the Carnival, both Houses adjourned on Saturday till Wednesday next. Many have already gone, and by Monday night the Mississippi Legislature will be in New Orleans. The House resolution requesting Senator Alcorn to resign, was defeated in the Senate by a vote of 20 to 4. Lieutenant-Governor Davis, colored, in opposing the resolution, said Alcorn was the ablest man in the party, and was now working the Levee bill, which would do the State more good than the 50 men who voted for the resolution in the House would do in their lives.

FOREIGN.

Great Britain.

The number of members returned from Ireland up to the 10th inst., is 555—31 Home Rulers, 16 Conservatives and 8 Liberals.

It is announced that a reconciliation has been effected between Disraeli, the Marquis of Salisbury and the Earl of Carnarvon, and that the Marquis and Earl have consented to assist Disraeli to form his Ministry.

At London, Sir Garnet Wolsey and his white troops are announced to leave the coast for home March 1st, the war with the Ashantees being over.

In Scotland, the Liberals have a majority of 25. The Liberals and Home Rulers are 26 ahead in Ireland.

Fifteen Conservatives and 11 Liberals were elected to Parliament on Friday.

The Irish Rifle Association of Dublin, have accepted the conditions on which the American Riflemen are willing to compete.

At London, Feb. 14, Taylor's pantechnicon and furniture repository, in Belgravia, covering an acre of ground, was burned entirely. The fire broke out at four o'clock and raged till midnight, when the flames were stopped by the engineers, who demolished the adjoining buildings. The building was insured for one million dollars. Total loss, including the contents of the burned structure, consisting of pictures, mirrors, five hundred carriages, and a vast amount of other goods of various kinds, is estimated at fifteen million dollars. Five houses and several large stables adjacent were partially destroyed. There were a number of accidents, and 2 firemen were killed. The fire attracted immense and unruly crowds, and it became necessary to preserve order.

Up till the 14th 638 members of the new Parliament had been elected, as follows: Conservatives, 342; Liberals and Home Rulers, 296; Conservative gain, 58.

At the election in Buckinghamshire Benjamin Disraeli and R. Harvey, Conservatives, were returned. Disraeli received 2,999 votes, and Harvey 2,920. The defeated Liberal candidate received 1,920.

Sullivan and Cullen, Home Rule candidates, have been chosen by immense majorities to represent South Ireland, defeating Chichester, Fortesque, and Matthew O'Reilly Dease, Liberals, who sat in the last Parliament. Six Home Rulers contested two seats for the County of Tipperary.

The Observer says the new ministry will probably be composed as follows: Disraeli, First Lord of the Treasury; Duke of Buckingham, President of the Council; Duke of Richmond, War Secretary; Earl Northumberland, First Lord of the Admiralty; Ward Hunt or Mr. Hubbard, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Gathorne Hardy, Home Secretary.

At London, Feb. 16 a dispatch was received from Rome, stating that the Pope will hold a Consistory in June, when eight Cardinals will be created. Archbishop Manning is to be one.

France.

On the eve of the departure of M. Bertholdi, the new French Minister to Washington, Mr. Washburne entertained him at a banquet.

The Patrie says sharply worded notes have recently been exchanged between the Governments of Germany and the United States. The subject of the correspondence is not stated. The report is contradicted by Washington dispatches.

A letter from Paris says: The recent suspension of the greatest of French Catholic papers, the "L'Univers," at the instance of Prince Bismarck, furnishes a striking proof of how completely is the subserviency of the French Government to German orders.

Spain.

It is probable that a form of Government in Spain will be decided by a *plebiscite*.

It is reported that General Dorragardy, Chief of Staff to Don Carlos, has been murdered.

At Madrid, Feb. 16, the British Minister had a long conference with Sagosta, Minister of Foreign Affairs, it is supposed on the subject of a British vessel detained in a Spanish port.

Cuba.

Havana correspondents state that letters from the insurrectionary district, dated Jan. 10, say a few days previously Gen. Calixto Garcia attacked the village of Carrolits, seizing an immense number of cattle and live stock. The Spaniards left their intrenchment, but were driven back into their fort, leaving behind twelve killed and fifteen rifles. On the 9th, at the same place, action took place which lasted eight hours. The Spaniards were about 1,000 strong, and were forced to remain in their encampments, leaving 40 killed and many arms. The total loss is calculated at 200. The Cuban loss in killed and wounded, about sixty.

A mob of several hundred men marched toward the Captain-General's palace Friday evening, with the intention of demanding that the Government send into the field the entire battalion of volunteers, with their own officers, instead of one-tenth of a battalion, as was ordered in Jovellar's recent decrees. Mounted police met the rioters and dispersed them. There were no casualties. The Captain-General quartered a detachment of gendarmes in the Feurza barracks, opposite the palace. The police have arrested Saturnino Martinez, editor of the Union, a workingman's journal, and a priest named Castro. Both prisoners have been sent to Morro Castle. They are known to be strong Republicans, and are reported to have been connected with yesterday's demonstrations. It is stated that the draft will be carried out within 20 days. The city is now quiet, but the people fear further trouble.

In consequence of the disturbances in front of the Captain General's palace Thursday evening, several hundred policemen and a body of grenadiers were quartered in the vicinity of the palace Saturday evening, as a precautionary measure, but everything was quiet.

The Captain General has received a telegram stating that the Spanish troops have killed Pedro Quisa, of the Rebel Government.

British Columbia.

The Toronto Globe has received the following dispatch:

VICTORIA, B. C., Feb. 8.

The Ministry tried to force an alteration in the terms of the confederation through the House last night. The people demanded a submission of the question to them. The Ministry refused. The people, 1,000 strong, proceeded to the House and broke up the sitting. Intense excitement prevails, and secession is threatened. At 7 o'clock to-morrow the people will march to the Assembly and demand the dissolution of the House.

Monday afternoon the citizens, numbering nearly 1,000, marched to the Parliamentary building in an orderly manner. A large police force was on hand, but there was no disturbance. Dr. Helmeken presented the petition passed at the meeting Saturday, the germ of which is that the meeting deems it unadvisable to enter into any negotiation for capitalizing the dry dock guarantee or to borrow any money from the Dominion Government until the scheme of the McKenzie Ministry for a re-enaction of the terms of the Union shall be made known; and further, that it is distinctly opposed to the Provincial Government interfering in any manner with the terms, or agreeing to any new terms offered by the McKenzie Government, until that shall have been submitted to the people for adoption.

The application of the Ministry for a gun boat to be stationed at the Government buildings was refused by the commander of the fleet.

A resolution was also sent to the City Members who support the Government, calling upon them to resign. The same afternoon Decasmas resigned, and has since left the city, it is said, to stand for an outside district for the Commons. Thursday, Walker, Attorney-General of the Decasmas Ministry, was called by the Governor to form a Government. It is understood that he will make no changes in the personnel of the Cabinet.

Considerable excitement still prevails. Morton, one of the leaders in the attack on the Parliament buildings, is out as a candidate for the Commons. Higgins, another leader, having been threatened with arrest, publishes a card accepting the entire responsibility of the demonstration. The House meets Friday, when the petition will be considered. The press opposition to the General Government says nothing but a dissolution will satisfy the country, and charges that the attempted change in the terms of the Union was done to violate the Railway clause.

Russia.

At St. Petersburg, February 16th, a grand dinner was given by the Czar to his royal visitors. In a speech he said that the Emperor of Germany, the Queen of England, the Emperor of Austria and himself would preserve the peace of the world. The Prince of Wales bowed his acquiescence, while the Emperor Francis Joseph answered by sentiments.

Japan.

The following is a summary of the news received by the Vasca Digama, from Yokahama, January 18, 1874:

Until recently the Japanese have found it expedient to conceal the actual condition of their finances on account of both foreign and internal complications. It has now been determined to publish a statement of their resources, the first of which will be issued in about two months. From this it will appear that there is an amount in the National Treasury of no less than $25,000,000, including the last English loan, and that the surplus revenue of 1873 was nearly $5,000,000.

The Japanese Government is exultant over the decree of Portugal suppressing the coolie trade in Maloa.

The small detachment of French troops stationed in Yokohama are about to be withdrawn. The English soldiers, some 400 in number, will remain, in defiance of the wishes of the Japanese Government.

Simadegu Sabaroa, the virtual ruler of the Province of Salsima, has been appointed a counsellor of the highest board of the Government. He has no regular functions, but is to be called upon as adviser in cases of difficulty. This appointment is complained of by the English residents, for the reason that Sabaroa has been accused, though falsely, of being the sole cause of Richardson's death, many years ago.

A second decree has been issued, this time a peremptory one, recalling all students now residing abroad at the expense of the Government, except those who have given the very highest proofs of advancement.

The great temple of Tenshig Daijon, at Thiba, in Yeddo, was destroyed by fire on the morning of January 1st. This was the most imposing structure of its kind in the capital, though not one of the most sacred. The huge bell, ten feet high, was so injured as to be worthless.

The relations between the Government of Japan and foreign Ministers, excepting representatives of the United States, are becoming more inharmonious. Japan still resists the pleas to open the country, and requires a strict enforcement of the treaties as they stand, until a revision shall have been agreed upon. Mr. Bingham acquiesces, and the other envoys are vehement in the opposition. At the new court reception by the Mikado, Mr. Bingham was absent by reason of illness. The other members of the diplomatic corps presented an address, which has occasioned great irritation in high quarters. It directly urged the removal of all restrictions upon free intercourse and trade. When first received, the question was seriously discussed whether it should not be returned as unacceptable; the decisive step was not however, taken. The true position of the European Ministers is shown by a remarkable thing. A German in Kabe was fined by his Consul for transgressing treaty boundaries. The Minister instructed the Consul to rescind the judgment, and notified the Government to that effect. The Japanese have therefore informed Mr. Van Brandt that unless a just penalty be enforced, they will decline further communication with him, and make the necessary representation to the Prussian Government. This means, of course, that they will ask for his recall. In a precisely similar case—the punishment of an American for going beyond treaty limits outside of Harksdale—the United States Minister has fully approved the Consul's action. The demeanor of a certain Minister has now become so aggressive that it will be necessary for the few moderate foreign envoys to act with him, as hitherto, in a united way.

The following are the particulars of the attempt to kill Iwakura on the night of the 14th of January: As Iwakura Adaijin was returning from the Mikado's temporary residence to his own dwelling, his carriage was stopped near the outer castle moat by a bamboo pole stretched across the road. The sides of the vehicle were cut through by swords, and Iwakura hastily descending found himself attacked by several armed men, from whom he received wounds on the loins and shoulders. He ran to the moat close at hand, and sprang into it, remaining hidden for about an hour, after which he returned to the Mikado's house, to which foreign surgeons were summoned, who at once discovered that his injuries were in no degree dangerous. He will probably be able to resume his duties in a few weeks. This is the first attempt at assassination of a high official since the murder of Hirosawa Sarga Eudi, in 1872. No clue to the persons has yet been discovered.

The position of the German Minister, Von Brandt, in the dispute with the Japanese Government, is understood to be as follows: He claims that, inasmuch as the existing treaties exclude all foreigners from the interior of the Empire, the Japanese have already violated it by introducing foreign teachers, etc., for the instruction of their youth, the development of mineral resources, and other kindred purposes. On this ground he proposes to resist the further exclusion of any of his countrymen who choose to travel beyond the prescribed limits, either for pleasure or trade. The native authorities are firm in their defiance of what they call a monstrous presumption.

The memorandum of the Japanese Foreign office to European representatives mentioned in the dispatch of December 22, refuting the arguments in favor of an extension of ex-territoriality, throughout Japan, has received a rejoinder in which the former pleas are retracted. The matter of the proposals is no less objectionable than before, although the manner is less offensive. It is noteworthy that this document is not signed by the United States Minister. A second answer by the Japanese is equally firm in its rejection of the demand. The correspondence is now probably terminated, though further verbal discussion will be allowed. The first communication took place last fall, when intercourse and trade were solicited, subject to a scheme of internal jurisdiction laid down by the Foreign Minister, and to be executed by the Consular authorities. In their last reply the Japanese refuse to entertain any proposal looking to the opening of the country, except by means of an entire revision of the treaties, previous to which they will require the credentials authorizing the Ministers to act in so important a matter. They say that such a radical step must be regulated by conventions between nations, and not by agreement between the Foreign Office and the European representatives.

The Indians.

A telegram from Fort Laramie states that the mail carrier from Red Cloud Agency, with an Indian escort, just arrived, brings information that Frank Appleton, who was acting Indian Agent in the absence of Agent Savelle, was shot on Monday, the 9th, by Minneconeja Sioux. The same night 14 mules were stolen from the Government freighter, Chas. Goreaw, within three miles of the Agency.

At White Clay Agency the Indians have driven off the beef herders, and taken charge, saying they will do their own issuing.

The corpse of Mr. Appleton has left with the Agency doctor for Fort Laramie. The doctor says he will not return to be made a target of. Troops have been telegraphed for, and the greatest excitement prevails.

A large fire was seen in the direction of Red Cloud Agency Sunday P. M., and it has probably been burned ere this, as there appears to be a general uprising.

The bodies of Lieut. Robinson and Corporal Coleman have just arrived in a mutilated condition.

A report received from Fort Fetterman states that the Indians attacked a wood party near there Thursday morning. Twenty-five men had been sent to their relief. No further particulars.

General Smith, at Fort Laramie, telegraphs: "I have just received information that arms and ammunition are en route to the Agency for use by the hostile Sioux, furnished by the Interior Department. I have ordered Captain Egar out to intercept the train and bring the arms and ammunition to this post."

It is estimated that there are about 8,000 warriors of the Sioux, Cheyennes and Arapahoes who could be in the field on call, if the whole of them are not on the war path, which the nature of their attacks along the line from Fort Fetterman to the Republican river would indicate. To oppose them there are but three companies of cavalry and nine companies of infantry. Active preparations continue by the military to meet the Indians. It should be borne in mind that these troubles at the nearest point are over four hundred miles from that point.

General Sheridan, under date of New York, the 12th, telegraphs Gen. Sherman as follows:

"The trouble with the Sioux, which for some time past we have been trying to avoid, seems now to be beyond any peaceable solution. In addition to the killing of Lieutenant Robinson and Corporal Coleman, Appleton, the Chief Clerk of the Red Cloud Agency, has been killed. The Agent at the Spotted Tail Agency reports that large parties of hostile Indians from both agencies have left for general hostilities. General Ord has sent out scouting parties to warn ranchmen, and to order their return to the railroad. I will go home to-morrow to superintend any action that may be necessary."

Gen. Sherman replied under the same date:

"Under call of the Interior Department of to-day, sent to your headquarters at Chicago, you will be justified in collecting the most effective force possible, even if you draw the cavalry from Fort Riley by rail to Cheyenne, to march to Red Cloud Agency, striking every party of Indians that opposes. Every Indian who has marauded south of the North Platte should be demanded and held as an accomplice in the murder of Lieutenant Robinson. Their ponies must be very poor now, and game must be scarce, so the occasion to give the Sioux a lesson long merited seems to be favorable. My own opinion is that the Sioux should never again have the Agency away from the Missouri River."

Preparations are being made with all possible dispatch for a movement of troops into the Sioux country, and forts are to be established at Whetstone and Red Cloud agencies. This is authentic. The force will be large enough to hold their own and protect the agencies. The weather for the movement is favorable at present.

Large amounts of ammunition are being shipped from Fort Leavenworth and Rock Island arsenals to the various posts in the Nebraska Department. All post commanders have been ordered to keep their commands in readiness to take the field against the Indians at a moment's notice. Two companies of cavalry and one of infantry left Omaha on the 14th for Fort Russell by Railroad, thence to Fort Laramie.

The Indians ran the ranchmen in six miles west of Big Springs on the 14th. Forty cavalrymen, under Captain Mills, left immediately by railroad, and will endeavor to strike them. No other depredations are reported. The officials are very reticent, desiring to keep their movements quiet, in order that half-breeds and renegades may not possess themselves of information valuable to the Indians, to whom they would certainly carry it.

The Cheyenne Leader has a special from Fort Fetterman which states that Cloud's son was killed last Monday night by a party of Sioux, whom he compelled to return stolen stock. He reports that the Cheyennes and Sioux had nearly all left the agency; that 150 lodges are now within 50 miles of Fetterman, and will come in or send to that post. He reports plenty of buffalo in the Big Horn country, and thinks that the Sioux will go there.

Two companies of cavalry were ordered from Cheyenne to Fort Laramie on the 14th.

Senator Hitchcock, Governor Fumas, and others, of Nebraska, called on the Secretary of War and General Sherman on the 14th for arms, in anticipation of general Indian outbreak. The request, owing to the existing laws, was denied.

FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

In the Senate on the 9th inst., a bill was passed appropriating $18,000 for the relief of East Tennessee University to compensate for property destroyed during the war.—The morning hour having expired, the Senate resumed the consideration of the Bankrupt bill, the pending amendment being that of Senator Thurman, to abolish the office of Register in Bankruptcy, and authorizing the District Court to dispose of all the suits in bankruptcy, and to appoint Master Commissioners, when necessary, to perform the duties of Registers. An Amendment authorizing Notaries public to take depositions was adopted. Senator Merriman offered an amendment giving an assignee authority to bring suit to recover debts in State courts for all sums under $500. Senator Gordon introduced a bill to amend the internal revenue laws, which was referred.

In the House on the 9th, a concurrent resolution for a *sine die* adjournment on the 15th of May was adopted. Majority and minority reports in the contested election case from the Third Congressional District of Arkansas, were presented and ordered printed. The majority report gives the seat to Wilshire, on his *prima facia* right; the minority report directs the Committee on Elections to report on the merits of the case.

Mr. Smith (Ohio) moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution declaring it to be within the constitutional powers of Congress by law so to regulate commerce among States as to protect that portion of the internal commerce which is among the States from all unjust or oppressive tolls, taxes, obstructions or other burdens, whether imposed by Railroad Companies or by combinations thereof, or by other common carriers; and that the present condition and magnitude of the commerce among States demanded the prompt and wise exercise of those powers and duties. Carried—yeas, 170; nays, 94.

In the Senate, on the 10th, that body, after considering various minor bills, went into Committee of the Whole on the bankrupt bill, and on rising reported the bill with several amendments. It was then put upon its passage and carried through by a vote of yeas 43; nays 11. Pending the consideration of the bill reported from the Finance Committee to amend the act to provide for the redemption of three per centum temporary loan certificates, and for an increase of National Bank Notes, the Senate adjourned.

In the House, on the same day, Mr. Stowel reported a bill providing that on mail matter of the third class, the name and address of the sender may be written, and also the number and kind of article enclosed, and there may also be written in any book or pamphlet sent through the mails a form of presentation, without extra postage being charged. On motion of Mr. J. F. Hoar, the bill was made to apply to matter heretofore sent, and then passed. Mr. Butler (Mass.) devoted a considerable time to a personal explanation, in which he sought to clear himself of certain newspaper charges. The House subsequently went into Committee of the Whole on the Army Appropriation bill, and after passing resolutions instructing the Committee on Banking to inquire into the condition of the First National Bank of Washington, adjourned.

On the 11th inst., the Senate took up in the regular order of unfinished business, the bill for the withdrawal of $25,000,000 of National Bank currency from those States having an excess, and re-issue of it to States not having their portion of currency. The bill was warmly discussed by Senators Merriman, Logan, Anthony, Morton and others, Senator Merriman moving to substitute $75,000,000 for $25,000,000. The Senate adjourned, pending the consideration of the amendment.

The House, on the 11th went into Committee of the Whole on the Army Appropriation bill, and after voting on the amendments, then offered, the House rose and the bill was passed. The fortification bill was then taken up.

On the 12th, the Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to equalize the currency, the pending question being on Merriman's amendment. The latter gentleman proposed to withdraw his amendment, and move to strike out all after the enacting clause of the bill and insert that $46,000,000 in notes for circulation shall be issued to National Bank Associations now organized, or which may be hereafter organized, in addition to the present circulation, under the same rules, regulations and limitations as are now prescribed by law. The new amendment was debated by Senators Sherman, Wright, Logan, Ferry and others.

The House on the same day went into Committee of the Whole to consider the propriety of abolishing the stamp tax on matches. Mr. Dawes (Mass.) occupied nearly three hours in a speech against the repeal, and also against the abolition of bank check stamps.

The Senate on the 13th took up the Merriman amendment to the currency equalization bill, and the amendment of Senator Wright to insert $50,000 as the amount to be withdrawn from the States having an excess. No definite action was taken.

In the House on Friday, Mr. Foster, from the House Committee on Ways and Means, asked leave to offer a resolution in reference to the Sanborn contracts, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish copies of all the contracts, schedules, correspondence and orders of the Department; also, a statement of the amounts paid in under each contract, by whom paid, and under which contract. Agreed to.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of private bills. As usual, Saturdays session was devoted entirely to debate.

The Senate, on the 16th, was occupied in the consideration of Senator Cameron's substitute for the bill to equalize the currency, and the debate was carried on by Senator Cameron for, and Senators Pratt and Frelinghuysen against the substitute.

In the House, on the same day, a large number of minor bills were presented. A resolution to re-assemble in joint session at Carpenter's Hall, Phila., on Sept. 6th next, to commemorate the centennial of Congress, was defeated.

The Markets.

Produce Markets.

NEW YORK, February 16, 1874.—Cotton quiet; 16⅛c for middling uplands. Flour dull and in buyers' favor; receipts 9,000 bbls; sales 8,000 bbls; $6 60@7 00 for extra state and $6 60@8 00 for round hoop Ohio. Wheat is dull and about 1c lower; receipts 95,000 bush; sales 57,000 bush at 150@152c for No 2 Chicago; 154@156c for No 2 Milwaukee. Rye is quiet. Corn is dull and declining; receipts 93,000 bu; sales 29,000 bu at 76@78c for new western mixed afloat. Barley is dull and nominal; receipts 12,000 bu; no sales. Oats is quiet; receipts 43,000 bu; sales 27,000 bu at 61@61½c for mixed western; 62@62½c for white. Pork firm; $16 00 for new mess. Cut Meats firm. Beef unchanged. Lard is firm; 9⅜@9 9-16c for steam and 9¾@9⅞c for kettle. Whisky 102. Sugar is firm. Petroleum—7⅛@7⅜c for crude and 15c for refined.

TOLEDO, TUESDAY MORNING, Feb. 17.—Flour—The market has held very quiet, and at in some cases a slight falling off in prices, with Fine, $4 00@4 25; Superfine, $4 50; Extra, $5@5 25; Double Extra and Fancy, $6 00@8 00; Buckwheat, $6 00@7 00. Wheat—The wheat market is a shade lower as compared with a corresponding period last week, but at this time, though quiet, exhibits a slight upward tendency in prices. Extra White Michigan was held at 166½c, with 165c the best bid made; No. 1 White Michigan last sold at 156½c, but at this time sellers demand an advance of ½c; No. 2 White Wabash was held at 162c, without takers; No. 3 White Wabash 147c, and Dayton Wheat at 145c. No. 1 Red Wheat dull at 153½c; No. 2 Red sold at 145c for Wabash and Lake Shore; No. 3 Red steady at 132c. Amber Illinois and Spring Wheat were not on the market for sale. Corn—The market which has ruled dull, at reduced prices, at this time exhibits an upward tendency, with sales limited to small lots of new for present delivery; new High-mixed ½c higher at 60c; Low-mixed, 59c; No Grade, 57c; Damaged, 53c, and Yellow 61c; White was offered at 61c, without takers; old Corn did not sell and prices are nominal. Oats—are but in limited request, with small sales of No 1 at 49c; No 2 at 47c and Michigan at 47½c. Seeds—In fair demand at $5.15 for medium and $5.40 for Mammoth Clover; $3.30 for Timothy to arrive, and 165@175c for Flax. Dressed Hogs are dull and prices lower, with buyers at $6.25@$6.50 for light and heavy weights. Pork quiet at $16.00 for heavy and $15.50 for light mess. Hams, 12½@13c for smoked per lb. Beef, $9 75 for prime, $10 50 for light and $12 for heavy mess per bbl. Lard 8¾@9c for prime in bbls, and 9@9½c in kegs. Tallow, 6c for mutton and 6½c for beef. Butter 30@33c for fresh. Eggs, 18c. Potatoes, 100@110c for Neshanocks and Long Pink Eyes; 100@105c for Mercer's and Carter's; 100c for common and mixed and 110c for Peach Blows per bu. Fruits, 9½@10c for dried apples; 23c for pealed peaches per lb; $3 50 for green apples, and $12 for cranberries per bbl. Mill Feed—$19 for Bran, and $20@23 for Middlings, per ton. Beans, 190@220c for small navy, and 160@190c for large white per bushel. Poultry, 7@8c for chickens, and 9@10c for turkeys, dressed, per lb. Lumber—Walnut, merchantable, 1st and 2ds, dry, $65; Culls, $25@28; Green, $50@55; Culls, $20@25; Oak ship timber $300; Whitewood, $25@28; Ash lumber, $23@25; Butternut, 1st and 2d, $40@45; Walnut flooring, $50; Walnut timber, 4c. Pine Lumber—The market exhibits a firmer feeling, with Clear at $50; Second Clear $45; Common boards, $15; Stock Boards, $16; Fencing, $12; Joists and Scantling, $15@20. Shingles in moderate demand; A 1, 18 sawed, $5; No 1 do, $3.75; No 2, $2 50@"0; A 1 18 shaved, $6.25. Lath, $2.75. Cedar Posts, 20c.

OSWEGO, February 14.—Wheat dull; No. 1 Milwaukee club, 159c. Corn steady at 80c. Oats quiet; State held at 53c. Barley quiet; Canada held at 210c.

DETROIT, February 16.—Wheat in better demand, extra 162½c; No 1, 156@156½c; No 2 white and No. 1 nominal. Corn and Oats neglected. Barley steady; western $3 85. Dressed Hogs nominal. Clover Seed at $5 10.

BUFFALO, Feb. 16.—Wheat dull and nominally 151@152c for No 1 Milwaukee Club; 143@145c for No 2 do. Corn dull; sales 4 cars at 71c on track. Oats held at 52@53c; no buyers. Rye nominal at 105c. Barley quiet and strong.

PHILADELPHIA, February 14.—Flour, nominal; superfine, $5@5 75; Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota extra family, $6 75@7 75; Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, $7 75@8 75. Wheat dull; red, 158@165c; amber, 163@170c; white, 161c. Rye unchanged at 96c. Corn dull; yellow, 75@78c; white, 81@83. Oats active; white, 59@63c. Whiskey at 101c. Petroleum—crude, 12c; refined, 14½c for prompt delivery; 17½c from date to end of June.

CHICAGO, Feb. 16.—Flour dull. Wheat dull and lower, closed seller 117c cash; 117½c for March. Corn opened steady, but closed dull and lower at 56½c cash; 41c for March. Oats opened steady but closed dull; 41½c cash; 42c for March. Barley firm; 185. Whisky firm at 96c. Pork steady at $14 30 cash or for March. Lard firmer; 9c cash or for March. Meats inactive and held firm. Hogs—receipts 9,500; range $4 70@5 85.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 16.—Flour unchanged. Wheat firmer; No. 3 fall at 141c No 2 do 157@157½c. Corn lower at 59c on east track. Oats lower at 47c at Elevator. Barley and Rye unchanged. Whiskey quiet at 96c. Pork quiet at $15@15 25. Dry salt firmer; little doing; all sales private. Bacon quiet at 7@8¾@9½c. Lard nominal at 8½@8⅞c. Hogs better; shipping $4 70@5 10; packers $5 20@5 50; receipts 2,325.

CINCINNATI, February 16.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat very dull at 140@145c. Corn quiet at 60@62c. Oats steady at 46@54c. Cotton firm at 15½c. Pork nominal at $15 00. Lard quiet, steam, 8½c; kettle, 9½c. Bulk meats steady; shoulders 5¾@5⅞c; clear rib, 7½@7⅝c; clear 7¾c. Bacon steady; shoulders, 6½c; clear rib, 8⅜c; clear, 8⅝@8⅞c. Hogs slow, only common grades offering; range 5@5 75; receipts, 2,143. Whisky in good demand at 95c.

BALTIMORE, February 14.—Flour steady, unchanged; western superfine, $5 25@6 25; do extra, $6 75@7 25; do family, $7 75@8 75. Wheat quiet and steady; Ohio and Indiana, 155@165c; western spring, 145@155c; choice white, 190@195c. Corn—mixed Western nominal at 75c. Oats—dull and lower; Southern and western, 58c. Rye quiet. Provisions quiet; Mess Pork, $16 50@$16 75. Bulk Meats—shoulders, 6½c; clear rib sides 8½c. Bacon—shoulders, 7½c; clear rib sides, 9½@9¾c. Hams—sugar cured, 12@13c. Lard, 9½@9¾c. Butter dull; western roll 35@37c; tub, 35@40c. Coffee nominal; fair to prime Rio, 24½@25½c. Whiskey dull at 99c.

Wool Markets.

BOSTON, Feb. 14.—Wool quiet. Sales for the week: 15,000 lbs Ohio and Pennsylvania No 2 medium, extra and above at 47½@56c; Michigan, 50@52c; Western Wisconsin, New Hampshire, New York and Maine at 47½@55c; combing and delaines at 55@58c; unwashed Western Colorado and Texas, 28@42c; tub 52@59c; scoured, 40@85c; superfine and extra pulled, 42½@57½c.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 12.—Wool in improved demand and firm; stock scarce. Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia double extra and above, 56@58c; extra, 55@57c; medium, 55@58c; coarse, 45@50c; New York, Michigan, Indiana and Western fine, 50@52c; medium, 54@55c; coarse, 45@50c; combing washed, 62@65c; combing unwashed, 44@45c; Canada combing, 62@65c; fine unwashed, 35@38c; coarse and medium washed, 35@38c; tub washed, 51@57½c; extra and merino pulled, 43@48c; No. 1 and superfine pulled, 45@50c.

Live Stock Markets.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 16.—Beef cattle—Market without decided change; extra Pennsylvania and Western steers, $7 25@7 50; fair to good, $6 00@7 00; common, $4 00@5 50. Sheep firmly held at $5 50@8 00. Hogs rather lower at $8 50@9 00. Sales 2,000 beeves; 7,000 sheep; 4,500 hogs.

EAST LIBERTY, Pa., Feb. 16.—Beef Cattle—Arrivals, 176 cars; best, $5 60@5 50; medium, $5 00@5 50; common, $4 75@5 0; stockers, $3 25@4 00; bulls, $2 50@3 00. Hogs—Arrivals, 65 cars; best Philadelphia, $6 20@6 50; Yorkers, $5 10@5 50. Sheep—Arrivals, 22 cars; best, $5 50@6 00; medium, $4 75@5 00; common, $3 75@4 00.

CHICAGO, Feb. 16.—Cattle—Receipts, 3,000 head. The market was fairly active, firm and unchanged; $4 40@5 75 for medium to choice steers; $5 87@6 12 for extra; $3 27@4 87 for fair to choice Texans; shipments, 1800 head. Hogs—Receipts, 10,400 head. The market was steady at $5 50@5 80 for good to choice; medium to fair dull at $5 10@5 40; shipments, 4,700 head. Sheep—Receipts, 212 head, active and strong at $4@6 12 for common to choice.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Beeves—Receipts to-day and yesterday, 4,780 head, making the total supply for the week 7,480 head, against 9,020 head for the same time last week. The market was dull and drooping at a reduction of ¼c on all grades below strictly prime. Sales, about 100 strictly prime and extra steers at 12½@13c; otherwise the extreme range was 8@12½c, with the bulk of the transactions under 11½c. Sheep and Lambs—Fresh receipts, 6,840 head, making 19,440 head for the week, against 28,181 head the same time last week. Quality mainly fair to prime; trade moderately active for good stock at unchanged prices. The range was 5½@7½c for poor to good; 7½@8¼ for prime to fancy. Hogs—Receipts to-day, 11,660 head, making the total supply 30,530 head for the week, against 34,720 head last week. The market was dull. Live hogs, 5¾@6¼c per lb., with a car lot of light choice at 6½c. Dressed hogs inactive but firm at 6⅞@7⅛c. for city and 6⅞@7 for western.